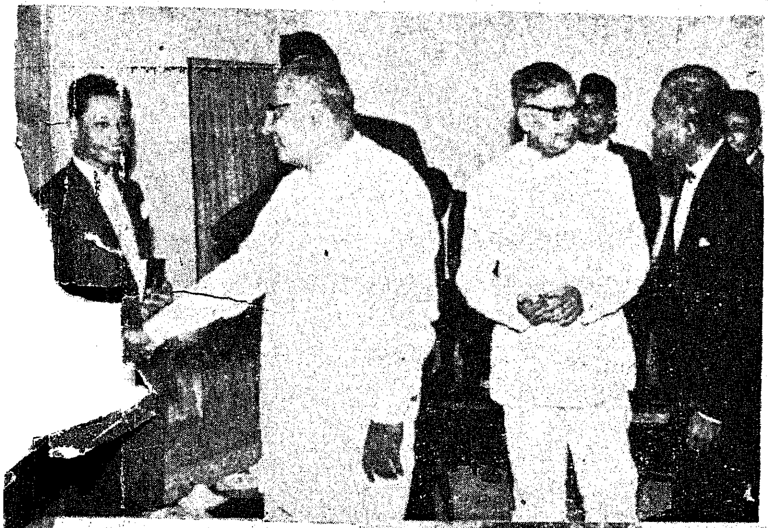
MADRAS

INFORMATION

JANUARY 1964

PRICE 20 nP.

VISITORS FROM ABROAD

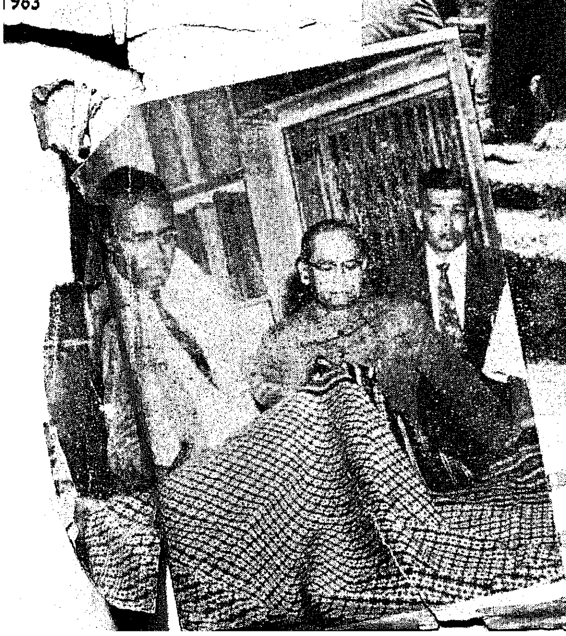


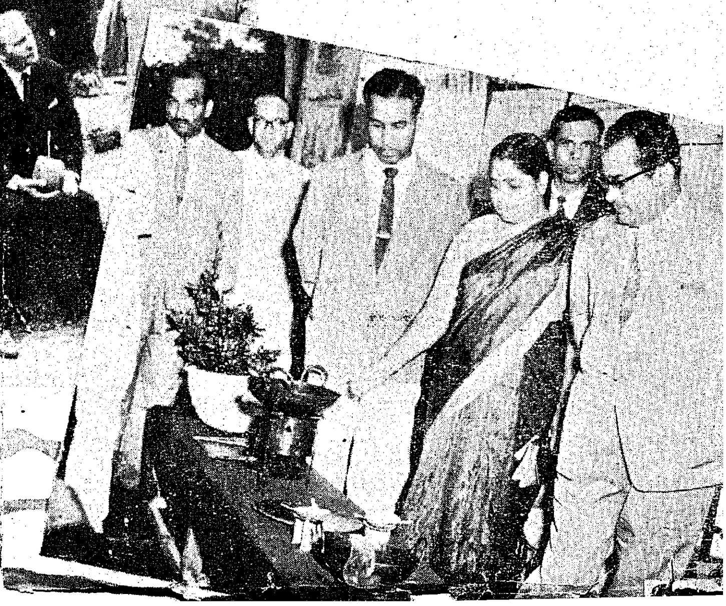
and 5. Sri Walter Scheel, Minister for Economic Co-operation, Federal Republic of Germany, visited the City and Mahabalipuram on December 4, 1963

A study team of rural teachers rom Malayasia met the Ministers t the Secretariat on November 23, 1963

4. Sri A. A. Vjera, Minister for Community Development and Labour, Uganda, paid a visit to the Handloom House on November 18, 1963

6 Sri N. A. Abdo, Minister for Government of Aden, visited the City Local on November 19, 1963





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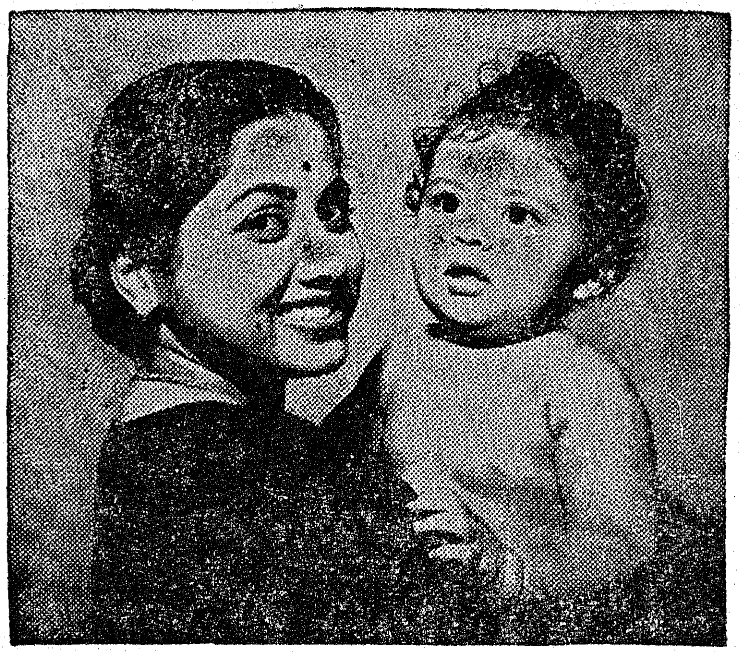

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PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE CITY

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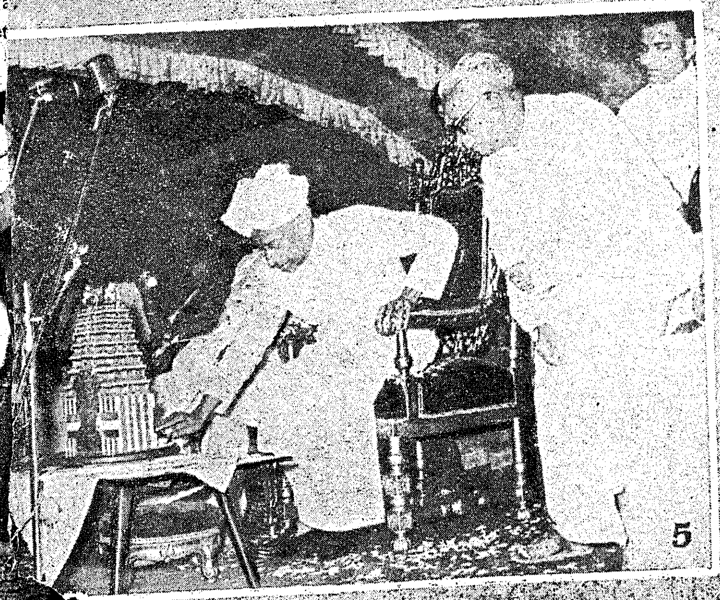

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CITIZEN'S DUTIES

1. To render all possible help and assistance for the defence personnel.
2. To increase the production of his factory.
3. To intensify efforts for increased production of agricultural and small-scale industrial commodities to make his State self-sufficient.
4. To avoid all possible strikes and lock-outs that may hamper production.
5. To maintain the price level of all essential commodities and curb the tendencies of hoarding and profiteering by conforming to the various legislative and other popular measures.
6. To maintain the supply lines of essential commodities.
7. To contribute generously in the form of money, gold and kind for the war effort.
8. To inculcate the highest sense of duty and responsibility.
9. To join the various organizations set up for the defence of the country.
10. To prevent anti-social and anti-national activities of the fifth columnists.
11. To observe strict austerity in consumption of food, clothes and other essential goods and save for the National Defence Fund.
12. To avoid unnecessary travel so that more important and essential movement may not be hampered.
13. To keep up the morale of the people and prepare them for sacrifices.
14. To check rumour-mongering and to disseminate true and faithful news and information.
15. To join or help Citizen's Committee, N.C.C., Territorial Army and Lok Sahayak Sena and Rifle Clubs.
16. To pray for the victory of our Motherland in this struggle and set aside all differences of caste, creed or party.

8 JUL 1965
25 JAN 1964
MADRAS

MADRAS *Information*

Volume XVIII JANUARY 1964 No. 1

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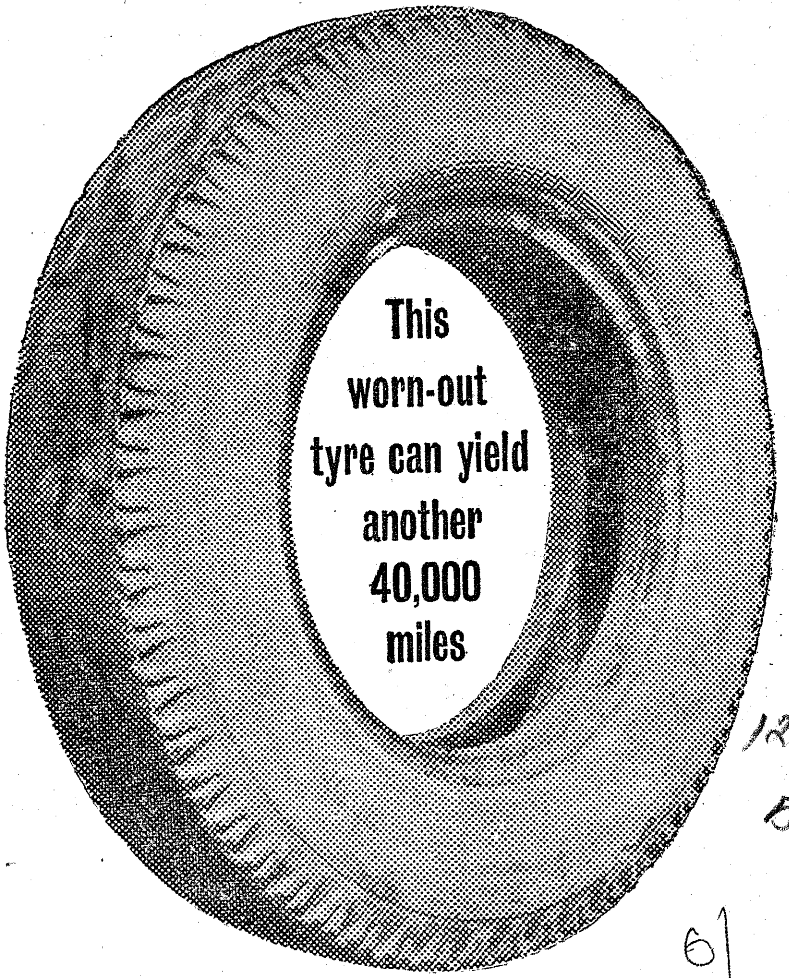
This Month's Cover:

The month of December marks the harvest season in Madras State. Paddy is ripe and ready. The cane is fully grown and is fit for crushing. When paddy and cane are harvested and the millets are gathered, the peasant feels happy and is in a mood to offer his thanks to the Sun God who has, through rain and shine, helped him to gather the harvest, and to the cattle which constitute his wealth. For four days commencing from the last day of Margazhi and the first three days of Thai, in the Tamil calendar, the peasant celebrates the Pongal festival, worshipping the Sun and the cattle. Pongal is the national festival of the Tamils. This month's cover depicts a familiar pre-pongal scene in the villages of Madras State.



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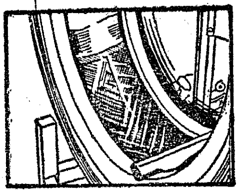

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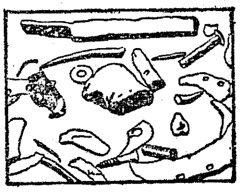

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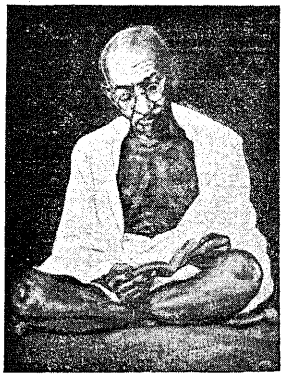


Gandhiji – The Man Who Moved Millions of Hearts

SRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU
Prime Minister

"Gandhiji was shot dead on January 30, 1948. *It was a great tragedy. But the greater tragedy would be if the people of India started forgetting him and his teachings."*

(Following are excerpts from the speech made by Prime Minister Sri Jawaharlal Nehru, while laying the foundation stone at Delhi University of the first Gandhi Bhavan in an Indian University, on December 17, 1959.)

Whenever I think of Gandhiji and whenever I am made to speak about him, I have a feeling in me of utter inadequacy; the subject and the man, too big for me to understand.

How am I to talk about him when even in his lifetime I was always struggling with this question, because of my memory of him running over a large number of years covering much ground during all these years. Whether I was with him or away from him, the question always troubled me—intrigued or filled my mind—as to what Gandhi was, because he was a giant among us all. I wanted to be able to understand the man who had so powerfully influenced India's millions, including me. I found, being myself rather of a rebellious nature, not easily agreeing to anything that he said and trying to argue with him, trying even, consciously or unconsciously, to irritate him, because I was, not at all of the religious variety of human beings.

Essence of Truth

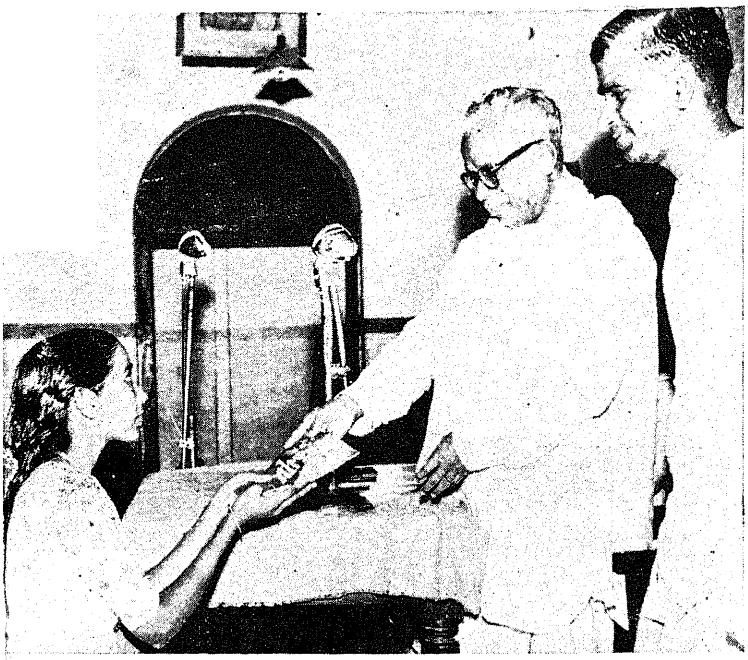
Gandhiji and the work he did in India impressed me because he did something amazing in India and having been through that period close to him, this sense of wonder never left me. He was a wonderful man and not by any means the person who did not make mistakes or who think they cannot make mistakes, but one could not help feeling that he was somebody who had the divine fire in him, somebody before whom the proudest head went down, somebody who, in spite of all his mistakes, was the essence of truth.

Nehru praises progress of Madras Co-operatives

The Prime Minister Nehru paid handsome tributes to the progress made by Madras State in the fields of agriculture, industry, education and co-operation.

Addressing a public meeting at Dindigul recently, Sri Nehru said while he congratulated Madras for its achievements in these fields, he wanted it to grow still further and "to become a model State" from which, other States in India may draw lessons and inspiration.

Sri Nehru said the co-operative movement was better developed in Madras than most other States. He defined the country's goal as Socialism and said that the basic principle of Socialism was a measure of equality among the people. He said this could be achieved by working hard and increasing wealth by producing more in the fields and the factories. "Wealth is not silver, gold and currency notes. Wealth is what we produce in the factory or field", he said.



Nehru on Socialism compiled by Sri V. R. Radhakrishnan was released and distributed free to students on November 15, 1963 by Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister of Madras

And so one honoured him and that basic feeling of truth and the basic feeling of, well, non-violence I do not know, but non-hatred. I do not think he had any hatred for anybody. He had an approach of affection, of love, even for his opponent. Many of the opponents I saw humbled before him by his approach of love and affection. At the same time he had an unbending will of a man of steel who would not give up what he considered the basic principle although he would compromise over other things. So in this way he functioned, not for a sect, not for a small group of intimate people, but for the 400 million people of India. That is the wonder of it, the amazement of it. He functioned in this way not on the religious plane, not on a narrow plane but on the public, political plane of India in this way. And that is unique in the world's history of people. There have been very great men in the world but this man should come and function on the political plane and raise that plane to higher levels and try to influence on that plane 400 million people of India, I never could get over the wonder of that.

The divine fire in him

Now, whatever he may have stood for, I am not competent to tell you. I could tell you many things which impressed me. Others would be better exponents of what he stood for. For me it was how I felt about him that counted, even more than what I thought about him. And so even in later years, while I have played about on the political field, and agreed with some people and disagreed with others, more and more I have felt that it was not a man's opinion that was important but what a man was, how he lived. That is more important than even the opinion he might profess or the faith he might profess. What is a man, how he functions, how he lives, what essentially he is. That is the most important thing because ultimately it was Gandhi as he was that counted. On any particular sphere, there may be cleverer, abler men than he was but still there has been no Gandhi in spite of their great abilities. So this man, having this divine fire in him—I use the word not in any technical sense, came and changed India.

And this man was put to death by one of our own people, a young man. That is said to be a tragedy. I am not quite sure in my own mind if it was a tragedy. It was a tragedy in some sense of course. But whether that was a tragedy or not, it would be a tragedy indeed if the people of India started forgetting him and his lesson. The death of his body meant nothing or not much, he had to die a little later perhaps, but it would be a killing of the spirit if the younger generation today forget to think about him or what he said. Not only would people lose something very precious but something also which I think is peculiarly needed today in India and the world. I would like to say it is not so much the words that he wrote or uttered and you may agree or disagree with this or that, but the whole thing taken together, I think, he was far greater than anything that he wrote or said. And his words, often, are very powerful words. Nevertheless, they do not convey the man who was infinitely greater.

Mighty revolution

The record of his activities fills us with pride, fills us with humility, and for any Indian young or old, not to be interested in that, even though he may not agree with it, is a strange thing which I cannot understand. I should have thought that men of this growing generation, would be eager to know what this person was like whom they have not met or seen but about whom they have heard so much. If that curiosity even is lacking, there is something very seriously lacking in us.

Now a mighty revolution happened here and many of us are the children of that revolution, and that revolution in some way or other is going on and will go on. And we forget that fact that we have still to function in terms of that revolutionary process, to carry on the work that Gandhiji began and carry it forward tremendously. We have to do that and if we fail in that, then we cease to be children of that revolution, we are merely hangers on and not living a worthwhile life in this exciting age in India and the world.

Now, today in India as elsewhere of course even more so, we talk of the wonders of this scientific and technological age. It is indeed wonderful, it is tremendous, it is revolutionary and it is taking the world in a direction which nobody can foresee how far it will go. We must not be frightened by that. And whether we are frightened or not, it has taken place and will take place. The world will not wait on our fears and we have to tread that path also fully but remember also that, that

path by itself does not quite appear to be adequate. And perhaps some of the major problems of the age are due to that certain inadequacy in them. Something more is wanted to control that, to round it off, to give it direction. And it may be that something more that is wanted, you may find in the broad approach and teachings of Gandiji. I believe you can, the world can. We can.

So how to grasp the unsubstantial greatness of a man and find out what was it that moved millions of hearts. What was that essential truth for which he stood. You can find it if you speak it in his words, you can find it best of all in his life itself, for his life taken as a whole was a thing of beauty. It was a ballad almost sung out to the people of India in terms of action, no false notes in it. Every gesture of his had beauty in it because behind that gesture was no anger. He was a man of tremendous feeling that feeling was a feeling of affection and love. And so his gestures and his words were soft though often there was steel behind.

Progress of Surgical Instruments Project near Madras

The Rs. 5½-crore Surgical Instruments Project set up with Soviet collaboration in Nandambakkam, near Madras, will go into production at least in some of the items by the end of this year, if everything goes well.

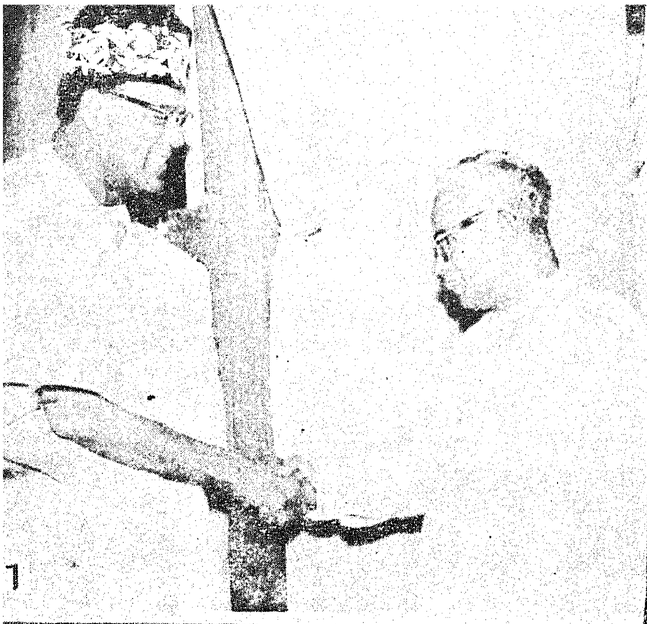
This information was given by Sri Nakul Sen, Chairman and Managing Director of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, Limited. Sri Sen who was talking to Pressmen at the Project site, added that if, again, everything went according to schedule, he expected the Project to go into full production by about the end of 1965. The Project, construction of which is going apace, will produce a total of 2½ million pieces of 166 types of surgica instruments annually when it goes into full production, representing nearly 70 per cent of the country's requirements in these types. Five per cent of the machine capacity will be initially utilised for repairs, maintenance, etc.

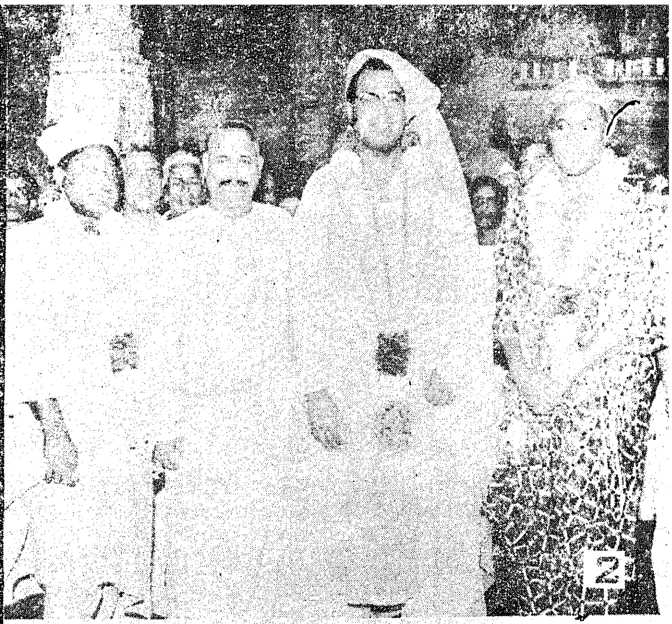
The estimated cost of the Project includes nearly Rs. 3 crores on machinery and equipment and Rs. 2·5 crores on non-equipment expenditure, which includes Rs. 1·7 crores on staff quarters and related services and amenities.

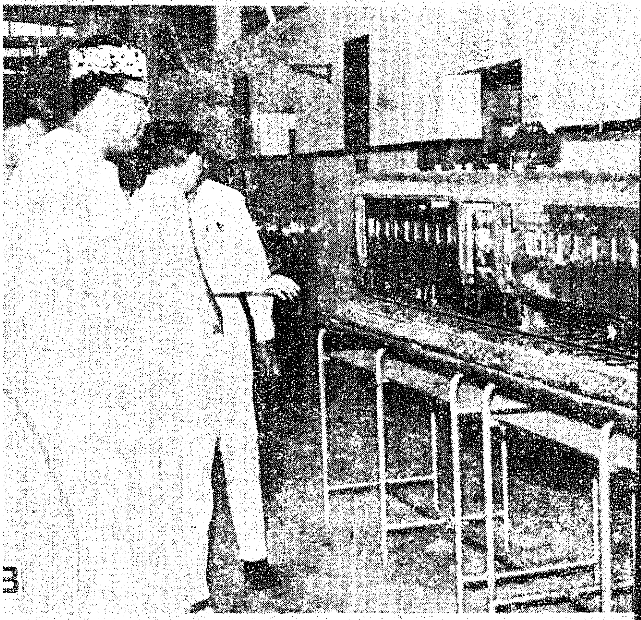
A party of Pressmen were taken round the various units of the Project like the workshops, administrative and canteen blocks, staff quarters, the water-supply system, the foreign technicians' hostel and the circuit house by Sri H. G. V. Reddi, Project Administrator, Sri Selvam, Chief Engineer of the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals, Limited, and the technical staff of the project. Lieut. Gen. B. M. Rao, Dr. Khosla and Sri Nabar, Directors and Mr. Arutjunov and Mr. Baldin, Soviet specialists, were also present.

As many as 148 out of 166 items of instruments to be manufactured in the factory were shown to the Pressmen and the Chairman said a Committee of Eminent Surgeons had been appointed by the Board of Directors at their meeting to examine these instruments and suggest any modification they considered desirable to suit Indian requirements.

Stamping and forging of the instruments under strict manufacturing standards to ensure precision and quality will be the distinguishing mark of the instruments produced in the project, as distinct from those already indigenously produced.







VISIT OF NIGERIAN MINISTER FOR LABOUR

1. Sri Jonnson, Minister for Labour, Nigeria, met Chief Minister Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, on November 13, 1963, at the Secretariat

2. Visited Kapali Temple at Mylapore

3. At the Integral Coach Factory, Perambur

4. At the Victoria Technical Institute, Madras

5. At Mahabalipuram

30 JAN 1964
MADRAS

Human Rights And INDIA

PROF. HUMAYUN KABIR

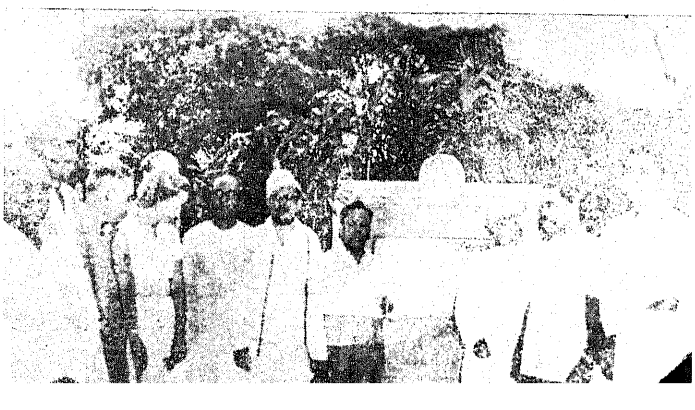
The present century is essentially a century of the common man. Never before in history has there been such recognition of the rights and duties of the ordinary citizen. In spite of the teaching of religions to the contrary, all societies in the past have been hierarchic in which a minority enjoyed privileges at the cost of the majority. Race, colour and sex have in the past been the basis of discrimination within and among communities. The inequalities have been enhanced by the fact that in the past, there have been many regional civilizations but never one world civilisation. Different conceptions of human rights could and sometimes did subsist side by side and because of lack of communications could even be unaware of one another. Today such a state of affairs is unimaginable. Whatever happens in one corner of the globe has immediate repercussions on all other parts. There can, therefore, no longer be closed systems of divergent civilisations, nor divergent conceptions of human rights. Any charter of human rights today must be charter on a global scale.

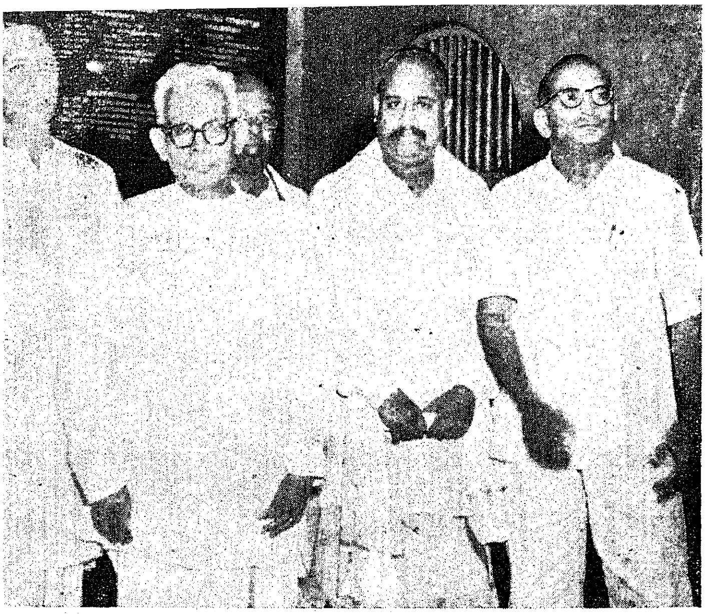
The great religions of the world have perceived the identity of human rights and duties from the earliest times. Though quite early in the history of India caste became an essential feature of the Hindu community, Hindu religious insight has always recognised the dignity of the individual by identifying the human soul with the Absolute. Buddhism with its doctrine of flux and the conception of Nirvana, Christianity with its enunciation of the Fatherland of God and Islam with its emphasis on the brotherhood of man have all proclaimed the same doctrine with equal and sometimes even greater force.

All religions have declared that injustice against one man is an offence against all men. The Indian religions carried this doctrine still further and held that an offence even against an animal or a plant is a sin. One may add that apart from religious considerations, self-interest, if not ethics, has from the earliest times taught man that he should refrain from doing unto others what he would not like being done unto himself. Without this recognition of the right of others, there would have been no civil society.

In spite of the fact that mutuality of rights and duties is the basis of human relations, man has often sought to claim right for himself and deny his duties to others. Till the modern age, consent of the ruled was assumed rather than sought for. With the spread of the democratic principle, this has changed and today all

Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister, laid the foundation stone for the administrative block at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Tondiarpet, on November 15, 1963





The tenth Kambar Conference was inaugurated by Sri M. Bhakthavatsalam, Chief Minister, at Gokhale Hall, Madras, on November 15, 1963

progressive countries have written into their Constitutions certain fundamental rights and safeguards to preserve the dignity of the individual and secure social justice to all.

The preamble of the Indian Constitution affirms its determination to secure for all citizens :

Justice, social, economic and political ;

Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship ;

Equality of status and of opportunity ;

And to promote among them all Fraternity ;

Assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the Nation.

Caste system

This reaffirmation was the more necessary in India, as our practice has often deviated tragically from the ideal. I need refer only to the disabilities which arose out of the institution of caste. In origin and intention, though not in actual operation, caste was a device for enabling different races and individuals to live together in harmony. Individuals as well as families could in the earlier phases pass from one caste to another and we have evidence that along with the inclusion of Dravidian Gods in the Aryan pantheon, Dravidian priests were accepted as Brahmins. Caste in its early date also helped to mitigate the economic conflicts which so sharply divided nineteenth century Europe.

Whatever may once have been the justification of caste, it had already become an institution of oppression by the time the Buddha appeared. His was one of the first notable revolts against caste. Ever since, Indian religious teachers and reformers have fought it. The South Indian Nayanmars denied it in the first millenium after Christ. Sankaracharya, often regarded as the champion of orthodox Hinduism against Buddhism and all other heretical creeds, is reported to have honoured an untouchable, a man of the lowest caste in the Hindu social hierarchy.

The impact of Islam in the middle ages gave an impetus to the movement against caste and fostered a religious renaissance based on the dignity of man. Great reformers like Ramanana and Kabir, Nanak and Chaitanya sought to break down the barrier of caste and judge individuals for their intrinsic worth.

Social reformers

The advent of Europe on the Indian scene also helped to undermine the rigours of caste. Starting from Raja Rammohan Roy, a succession of social, political and religious leaders fought to diminish the rigours of caste, if not altogether abolish it. Names like those of Vidyasagar and Ranade, Shraddhanand and Vivekanand readily come to one's mind. One of the most powerful poems of Tagore in *Gitanjali* attributes the misfortunes of India to the evils of caste. Gandhi threw the whole weight of his personality against untouchability and caste and staked his life to restore freedom and equality of worship among all members of the Hindu Community. It is, therefore, not surprising that the Indian National Congress has accepted the eradication of caste as one of its basic tenets.

The declaration of equality of rights and duties for all citizens in the Indian Constitution is, therefore, a direct outcome of the teaching of Indian seers from the days of the Buddha. In the modern period, voluntary agencies in all parts of the country have worked to create a new social consciousness based on the equality of man. It was, therefore, with the support of the enlightened sections of the Hindu Community itself that the Indian Constitution declared untouchability to be a crime.

Modern developments

One may add that modern developments in technology had in any case created a situation where caste and untouchability had become obsolete. Modern modes of transport compelled close contact among people of different castes, communities, races and creeds. Industrialisation forced men and women to live together regardless of caste. The growth of towns led to increasing anonymity and offered the individual an opportunity of shedding disabilities of caste.

Ideological as well as technological considerations, therefore, combined to enshrine the concept of natural justice and respect for the individual in the Indian Constitution. Of the many Articles dealing with human rights, the following are of special interest :—

Article 15 :

(1) The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.

(2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to—

(a) access to shops, public restaurant, hote and places of public entertainment; or

(b) the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.

Article 16 :

(1) There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State.

(2) No citizen shall, on grounds only o religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them, been eligible for or discriminated against in respect of any employment or office under the State.

Article (17) :

"Untouchability" is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. The enforcement of any disability arising out of "Untouchability" shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

Article 29 :

(2) No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language or any of them.

Article 46 :

The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

It will be seen that while assuring equality of rights and opportunities to all, safeguards were written in the Constitution to secure preferential treatment for a limited period to weaker sections of the community with special reference to women, children and members of the Backward Classes generally, and in particular the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

Untouchability (Offences) Act

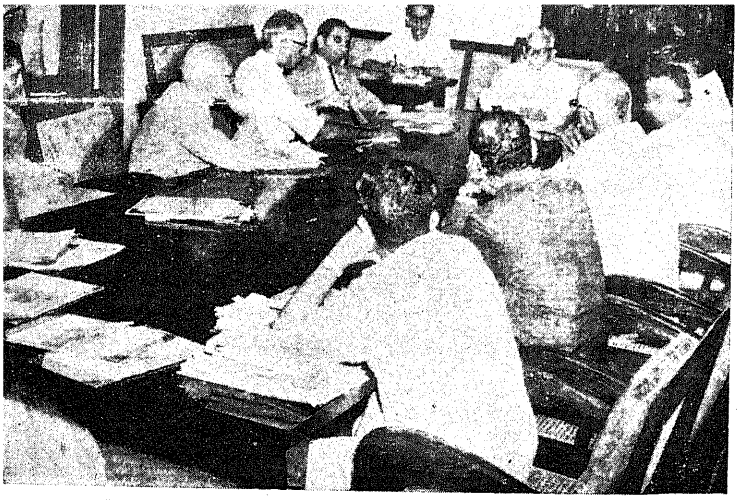
As a further step towards the eradication of the social disability of the so-called lower castes, the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 (22 of 1955), became law on 1st June 1955. This Act provides for the punishment or the practice of "untouchability", for the enforce ment of any disability arising therefrom and for matters connected therewith. Offences under the Act, on the grounds of untouchability, are punishable with imprisonment.

Under the Indian Constitution, there is a Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to investigate all matters relating to the safeguards provided in the Constitution. The Commissioner presents to Parliament an annual report setting out the progress made in the various fields and recommending further steps to be taken.

Of these, perhaps, the most important are those that relate to education. In a democracy, the outcome even of legislation depends ultimately on the will of the people and on the determination and effort of the backward sections themselves. Prejudices die hard and quick results cannot be expected. The surest, though not the quickest, way is, therefore, to make education broad-based and extend to all neglected classes the benefits of general, technical and professional education. A programme for the purpose was taken up even before the Constitution was adopted and it has been intensified since then. A few figures may bring this point vividly before the general reader. On the eve of independence the Central Government had initiated a scheme of scholarships for students of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with a grant of less than half a million rupees. By 1952, i.e., within five years of independence, the Central grants alone had increased to over twenty million.

The report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1960–61 estimated an expenditure of Rs. 200·512 million on the educational facilities for these groups during the Second Plan period (1956–61). The provision for the Third Plan (1961–66) is about Rs. 334·50 million. During the Second Plan period, 244,106 and 4,668,750 scholarships were awarded to

To felicitate the pupils who have secured the highest marks at the S.S.L.C. and E.S.L.C. Examinations, March 1962 and 1963, a public meeting was held at the Children's Theatre on December 2, 1963. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister, presided



The Study Team on Prohibition had discussions with the Ministers of Madras and officials in the Cabinet Room in the Secretariat on November 28, 1963

Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste students respectively, including scholarships for studies abroad. 10,705,454 boys and 3,211,800 girls belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes were in schools and colleges including professional colleges in 1958-59.

Seats in Parliament

At the time of adopting the Constitution, it was provided that seats in Parliament and State Legislatures would be reserved for members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for a period of ten years but since then it has been decided to extend such reservation for twenty years, i.e., up to the General Elections to be held in 1972. The expectation is that within that period the special measures adopted for the educational, economic and social advancement of those backward sections of the community will have resulted in bringing them on par with all other sections of the Indian people.

With the development of educational facilities all round and the growth of industries and cities, it can be confidently expected that untouchability will vanish before long. The major burden for bringing about a change in outlook depends on the teachers. They will have to develop a feeling for Human Rights in the minds of the rising generations through precept and even more important, practice. The U.N. Charter will prove a most valuable tool for teachers in this work, for here we have a formulation of rights and duties which apply to all men in all countries of the world. Although not enough has been done in schools in India and particularly in teacher-training establishments for spreading the lessons of the Charter of Human Rights, it is my earnest hope that the 15th Anniversary celebrations of the signing of the Declaration will give a fillip to this programme.

In the words of our President, Dr. Radhakrishnan, " The Commonwealth of humanity has no written Constitution ; it is based on community of ideals, freedom and dignity of the individual, rule of law, economic opportunity for all citizens and love of peace."

E.S.I. Scheme extended to Nagercoil and Shencottah

The Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been extended to Nagercoil and Shencottah from the midnight of November 30, 1963. As a result, 1,650 more factory workers will get benefit under the Schmee.

The families of the insured persons in Nagercoil and Shencottah areas, will become entitled to medical care thirteen weeks after the date the insured persons have become entitled to medical care under the Scheme.

Medical care in these areas will be provided by the State Government under " Service System " and for this purpose two whole-time dispensaries have been set up, one each at Nagercoil and at Shencottah. For payment of cash benefits, a Sub-Local office and a Pay office will be set up at Nagercoil and Shencottah respectively.

The employers of the factories covered under the Scheme in these areas will be required to pay Employees' Special Contribution at an enhanced rate of 2½ per cent of the total wage bill instead of ¾ per cent which they have been paying so far.

THE URBAN LAND TAX

The Madras Legislative Assembly and Council have passed the Urban Land Tax Bill as amended by the Select Committee without any further modifications.

The Bill provides for the levy of a tax on urban land in the City of Madras initially and empowers the State Government to extend it later to any other municipal town or township.

Sri V. Ramiah, Minister for Works, who also holds the Revenue portfolio who piloted the Bill said that the Urban Land Tax Bill which sought to levy a tax on urban land was not inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution. He said that the State Government had been advised by constitutional experts that there was nothing unconstitutional in the proposed levy.

He explained that this tax replaced the 'quit rent' and added that there had been no periodical revision of the ridiculously low quit rent levied. He contended that quit rent was not a scientific way of taxation. The present tax was a sound one with a rational basis.

The Select Committee on the Madras Urban Land Tax Bill has decided that the legislation should come into force in the City of Madras from July 1, 1963, and not from July 1, 1962, as contemplated in the original Bill.

The Committee has also decided to reduce the rate of urban land tax to 0·4 per cent of the "average market value" of the urban land in a sub-zone as determined under the provisions of the Bill. The Bill, as it stood before reference to the Select Committee, provided for the levy of the tax for every fasli year at the rate of 0·5 per cent of the "market value" of the urban land in a sub-zone.

Another change made by the Committee is to amplify the definition of the term "owner" so as to include in it a mortgage in possession and a person, entitled to *kudivaram* in respect of any *inam* land. Shrotriemdar or any person who is entitled to any *melvaram* in respect of any *inam* land has alone been excluded from the definition.

The Committee has recommended that if any building is occupied wholly by the owner for his residential purpose and where such an owner makes an application to the officer within a specified period the tax shall be reduced by 25 per cent of the amount

The Guest House at the Milk Colony, Madhavaram, was opened by Sri N. S. S. Manradiar, Minister for Food, on November 14, 1963

payable on the land on which the building has been constructed and on the urban land appurtenant to such building. A new clause has been included to give effect to the above recommendation.

New provision

Other main changes made by the Committee include a new provision in the Bill to enable the owner of the land for the addition of the urban land tax to the rent, in case the amount of the urban land tax payable in respect of any land is in excess of the amount of the annual rent payable in respect of such land or the building thereon. The Courts have been empowered to fix the rent on application from the owner and add to the annual rent, an amount not exceeding the urban land tax.

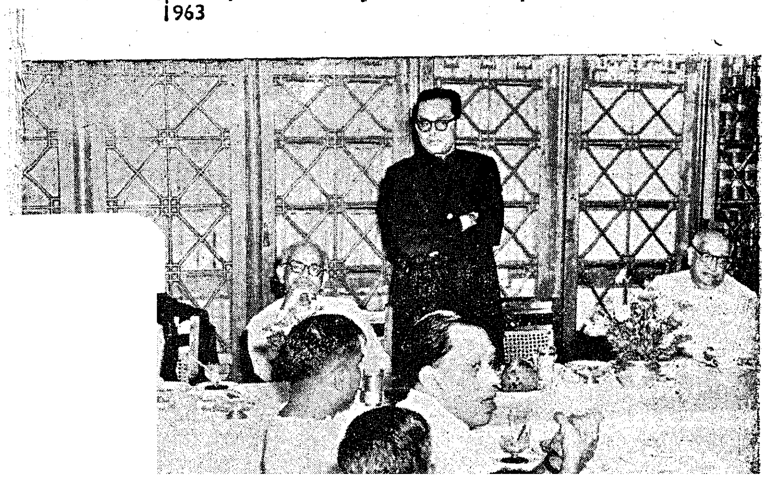
The Clause dealing with exemptions has been modified so as to bring into the list of exempted categories any urban land appurtenant to hospital, or used for public purposes without collecting rent or on which any building used for purposes of schools, colleges or universities has been constructed or appurtenant to such building and any urban land owned by any school, college or university as the Government may notify.

The background

The system of assessment in Madras City has always been different from that in other areas of the State. The Madras Revenue Recovery Act, 1864, and the Madras Estates Land Act of 1908, do not apply to the City of Madras. Lands in Madras City are assessed according to the provisions of the Madras City Land Revenue Act of 1851 which do not extend to other areas in the State.

It will be helpful to have a brief history of the levy of non-agricultural assessment in Madras City and in mufassal towns. The following excerpts are taken from the Report of the Special officer.

A party was given by Sri Chellapandian, Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly, to meet Sri Hugh Fernande, Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, Ceylon, on November 14, 1963



A charge for the occupation of land was being levied in Madras, even so early as 1750 but the levy was not uniform. The Portugese settlers never paid any rent nor did they enter into lease deeds, acknowledging Government's title over the lands. A notification was issued on 20th January 1791 calling upon all persons possessing grounds within the limits of home farms of the East India Company to take out a grant agreeing to pay the usual "quit-rent." The notification further added that failure to comply with the requisition would entitle resumption of the property. In 1813, the Collector was empowered to issue grant orders under his own hand and seal. Though the grants were to be issued only after title was established, it was found in practice that the grants were issued even in cases where there were no clear or valid titles. The Advocate-General objected to this procedure, as it was likely to create a confusion of title and render the property insecure. He insisted that no order of grant should be executed except when the party was in actual possession and the party had a title to the land. In view of this criticism, the terms of the grants were modified. In the new certificates that were issued, the Government took no responsibility regarding the title of the property. Later it was decided to have a statutory enactment for the levy of land revenue in the lands within the City of Madras and the Madras City Land Revenue Act XII of 1851, came to be passed.

Levy of Ground rent

Government however, found that Act XII of 1851 can apply only to lands which at the time of the Act were out of the Company's possession and that there was nothing in that Act to prevent the assignment of unoccupied Government lands on conditions similar to those obtaining to the disposal of vacant Government sites in towns and in the mufassal. They therefore, issued rules providing for the levy of assessment, levy and revision of ground rent in the case of assignment of lands which were then at their disposal. In their Letter No. 21-223-12, dated 7th October 1895, the Government of India laid down the principles regarding levy of ground-rent for occupations of lands at the disposal of Government.

round rent is charged only on lands at the disposal of Government. When land is first granted to an applicant, only a low occupancy-right is charged. The ground rent is charged on the full letting value of the land. It is 1/25 times the free-hold value of the land. Free-hold value is calculated by obtaining particulars of transactions relating to similar lands in neighbourhood, excluding those held at favourable or unfavourable rates and adding to the ceiling price of such lands 25 times the ground rent or assessment payable on the land.

Thus there are now in Madras City, lands of the following kinds :—

(*a*) Lands covered by the provisions of City Land Revenue Act paying quit-rent.

(*b*) Lands held as free-hold not paying assessment as the capitalised value of it had already been paid one lump sum.

(*c*) Lands belonging to temples, etc., either exempted from assessment or paying nominal assessment.

(*d*) Lands covered by the shrotriem grants of Alwarpet, Thiruvateeswaranpet and Chintadripet wherein the occupants pay quit-rent to the shrotriemdars and the shrotriemdars pay a nominal amount to the Government.

(*e*) *Former ryotwari villages of Chingleput district now included in Madras district.*—Continuing to pay the settlement assessment relating to Chingleput district instead of quit-rent under Act XII of 1851. In respect of old natham sites (enjoying free) nominal ground rent at Rs. 12·50 nP. is however now charged under orders of the Government.

(*f*) *Estates which originally formed part of Chingleput district and now included in the extended limit of Madras, which have since been taken over under the provisions of Act XXVI of* 1948—The built up areas in these villages are levied a rent fixed under section 18 (4) of the Act. The amount of assessment charges for these areas is similar to the ' manai rate ' due under Act XII of 1851.

(*g*) Lands held under ground-rent system paying full competitive rent revisable once in ten years.

In G.O. No. 207, dated 29th January 1907, the Government accepted the Board's proposals that Collectors should be left to determine the ground rent upon each individual plot before it was put to auction. They, however, considered that a definite scale of rates should be drawn up for the guidance of Collectors with discretion for the Collector to fix a rate he considers appropriate for the site in question. At first it was considered a schedule of six rates would be sufficient. Later the Board prescribed a large scale of ten rates ranging from Rs. 12·50 nP. to Rs. 500 an acre for the Collector to choose from. These ten rates were subsequently increased to 23 ranging from Rs. 12.50 nP· to Rs. 500 (*Vide* Appendix XXIV at page 36 of Board's Standing Order, Volume II, 1920 Edition).

In 1922 *Government restricted their share of the ground rents received in towns to the* " Assumed Agricultural assessment." The assumed agricultural assessment was fixed at Rs. 6·25nP. an acre or 6 nP. a cent in consultation with the Board and the excess of ground-rent over the assumed agricultural assessment was made over to the Municipality with a view to improve their resources.

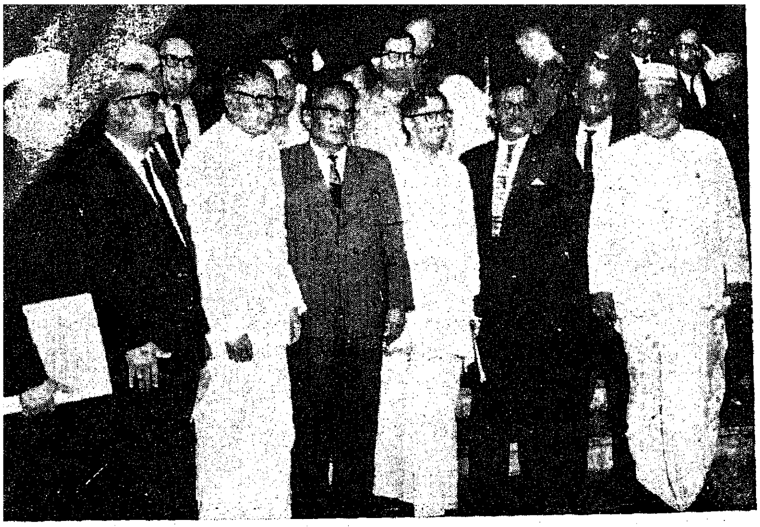
Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister, inaugurated the exhibition of Painting by Andhra Pradesh Artists in the Galleries of the Government Museum, Egmore, on November 21, 1963

In G.O. No. 436, dated 8th March 1927, Government observed that the existing rules which required the levy of a ' rack rent ' in the shape of the full competitive etting value as ground rent could not but hamper the development of building sites and discourage enterprise and industry and that as the calculations in fixing and revising the groundrents are largely arbitrary and elaborate, there was room for a very large amount of error to creep in. Government directed that in all cases in which lands outside the limits of the Madras City were sold subject to the payment of groundrent the assumed agricultural assessment should be taken as the ground-rent due to the Government and the land should ordinarily be sold in auction subject to the payment of *this* ground rent. The assumed agricultural assessment which was fixed at Rs. 6·25 nP. an acre was liable to revision at the re-settlement in accordance with the principles governing the revision at resettlement of the assessment on agricultural lands.

The assumed agricultural assessment of Rs. 6·25 nP. per acre was an arbitrary figure fixed for administrative convenience, as this rate works out exactly 6 nP. per cent. In 1937 the Board however felt that it was anamalous to have this rate arbitrarily at Rs. 6.25 nP. and to provide for the revision of the rate at the time of resettlemnt and it considered that if at all the assessment on these lands is linked up to agricultural assessment it should be fixed at the highest dry rate and not at the assumed rate adopted arbitrarily at Rs. 6·25 nP. an acre of the same of administrative convenience and recommended that the assumed agricultural assessment should be fixed at Rs. 6.25 nP. per acre ; only when it exceeds highest dry rate and when the highest rate exceeds Rs. 6.25 nP. only the former rate should be charged. As a new popular Government was expected to take office shortly at that time, Government ordered that the matter can be left to the decision of future Governments.

Proposals for revision

The question of ground rent again came for consideration in another connection after the popular Ministry



Sri C. Subramaniam, Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries, who inaugurated the Second Quarterly meeting of the Central Committee of the All-India Manufacturers' Organisation at Woodlands Hotel, Mylapore, on November 30, 1963, is seen with the members. Sri R. Venkataraman, Minister for Industries, addressed the meeting.

was formed in 1937, when the propriety of fixing ground rent according to the letting value of the land was examined. The then Chief Minister observed that he was strongly inclined to the view that the Government should abolish the anomaly of land revenue collection for sites in urban areas and substitute it by capitalised payments and allow the sites to be held as free-holds. But the Finance Department strongly objected to the proposals and pointed out the harmful effects of capitalising land revenue. The proposal was eventually dropped on the fall of the Ministry. Even though the Chief Minister had mooted the idea of capitalising the land revenue he was clear that his proposal should not be regarded or worded as precluding the future Government from adopting a considered land revenue policy in respect of urban areas in future years.

In 1939, the question came up again for consideration of the Board and the Board recommended that the principle relating to the Madras City Ground Rent Rules based on full competitive rent can be extended to large mufassal towns also and that the rate of rent can be fixed at 50 per cent of the letting value instead of full competitive rent subject to a minimum of Rs. 12·50 nP. per acre and the present payment to municipalities of the excess over of the assumed agricultural assessment may be discontinued. The proposals were however eventually dropped. (G.O. No. 1859, dated 5th August 1900, G.O. No. 1895, dated 8th August 1890.)

This question next came up for consideration in 1946 when the Government wanted to make some re-orientation in the Land Revenue Policy and several methods of alternative sources of revenue was being considered. The Board then suggested that the levy of ground rent based on the commercial value of the site will besides bringing in revenue satisfy the modern principles of taxation.

The Land Revenue Reforms Enquiry Committee recommended the continuance of existing rules for the levy and revision of Madras system of ground rent and that full ground rent may be levied on lands in Madras City held free of assessment or on favourable terms of assessment. It recommended the extension of ground rent rules including provision for periodical revision to municipal towns and that 50 per cent rental value of the land may be observed as ground rent and 50 per cent may be left to be tapped by the municipalities for augmenting their resources.

The question of properly exploiting non-agricultural assessment came up for the consideration of the Taxation Enquiry Commission appointed by Government of India in April 1953. It considered that the majority of all States have not given adequate thought to the taxation of unearned income derived by lands put to non-agricultural use and that the assessment of such lands at rates higher than those for agricultural lands is wholly justifiable since the increase of the value of non- agricultural land arises not due to any effort on the part of the owner but only due to the growth of population, the introduction of Railways and the provision of Civic facilities.

It was of the opinion that the assessment will have to differ according to the use of the land and that in the case of lands used for buildings and factories, the assessment will have to be related to the market value of the property or its annual value. It also considered it advisable that the non-agricultural assessment should be revised periodically, as and when the market value of the lands varied from time to time. The Committee, however, recommended the continuance of the exemption of village sites from payment of assessment.

It recommended the withdrawal of concessions of full or partial exemptions from assessment necessitated on the historical or contractual grounds.

The Committee considered that, though the assessment may be exploited by the Government, a part of the receipts from this source, should be given to the Local Bodies as grants.

Tentative proposals

The proposals submitted by Revenue Board were examined by the Government in 1960 and they considered a proposal for levying a ground rent at a flat rate of Rs. 25 per ground on all lands in the City of Madras whether they are at present subject to ground rent or held under favourable rates or free of assessment. It was then pointed out that municipal property tax had two elements—one being a tax on the land and the other being a tax on the structure built on it and in view of the fact that the municipal property tax itself included both the elements, it would not be fair for the Government to impose a further levy on lands and that the levy of

urban land tax was within the powers of the Corporation of Madras. Considering the fact that there are loopholes and leakages in the present system of assessment of rental values and that a Committee on Corporation Finances is examining the problem, it was agreed that whatever revenue was derived from the new source should be given to the Corporation for its development purposes. It was also considered necessary to have a settlement party to go into this question in detail and assess the value of the lands and the buildings built on them and the schedule prepared by the Settlement Party should be of such a nature and contain adequate details to work out a more rational property tax, which would bear closer relations to the actual market value of the property on a suitable legislation passed.

Pending enquiry by the Settlement Party, it was suggested that without prejudice to the above proposal, a tentative levy of Rs. 25 per ground in the City of Madras should be adopted and that the interim tax should be integrated with the new levies, as and when Settlement Party was ready with the results of its study.

No final decision

It will be seen from the history of the levy of ground-rent detailed above that though the taxation measure was considered anomalous and the question was examined several times, no final decision was taken in the matter. No re-orientation was possible without a fresh enactment. But every time when the question was examined, it was felt that the time was not opportune for a Land Revenue Legislation. It is time, therefore, that Government take a firm decision in the matter and settle the broad lines on which the new taxation should proceed. The proposal of the taxation must be flexible and so designed that its impact falls equitably upon the sections that remain inadequately taxed. It will be desirable to settle at first the broad principles on which the non-agricultural taxation should proceed.

The present system of land revenue taxation does not rest upon any statute law but on the common law of the land that the Sovereign Power has a right to a share of the produce from the land. Land Revenue Settlement proceeds on the principle that the State is entitled to half-share of the net produce from the lands. Though land revenue settlement has been given up and the present land revenue demand rests on the amount settled long ago, there have been further increase to the land revenue demand by way of levy of surcharges and the Agricultural Income Tax.

Importance of Locality

In the case of agricultural lands, lands are classified according to the fertility of the soil. Such a classification will be out of place in respect of non-agricultural lands, which will have to be classified according to its importance of the locality. It is difficult to find a proper yard-stick to work out the yield from non-agricultural lands. A safe course appears to be to base the annual rental value in terms of the percentage of the market value of the land. A non-revisable long-term assessment is likely to involve both the Government and the owner in hardship, as the market value of the lands is likely to vary from time to time. It will therefore be advisable to provide for revision of assessment at periodical intervals neither too early nor too late. It is considered that the revision of assessment at intervals of 10 years will be proper. This fits in with the present practice of revision of ground-rent and the period has also been accepted by the Board in its earlier reports. There will however be a slight distinction between the present practice and the proposed revision. At present the assessments of ground-rent is not done simultaneously. The ground rent is fixed when the land is assigned, and the revision is taken up 10 years after the date of assignment. They come up for revision piece-meal on all the years. There is no opportunity for reviewing the land values of the lands in a comprehensive manner at the same time. Now that the assessment for all lands are being fixed up the next revision can be taken 10 years later including cases that come up for casual assessment in the interim period.

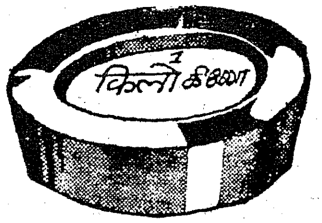
The Special officer in his report has recommended as follows :—

(1) The urban land tax may be levied on all non-agriculatural lands used for building purposes.

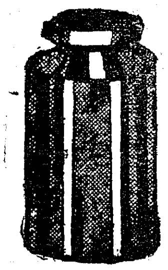
(2) The tax may be based on the market value of the land. It will be on a slab system providing for a higher percentage of assessment in respect of more valuable lands and for lands used for commercial and industrial purposes.

Armed Forces Flag Day was observed all over the country on December 7 1963, for raising funds both for the welfare of serving personnel and ex-Servicemen and their families. In New Delhi, wives of the three Service Chiefs went to Rashtrapati Bhavan to collect the President's donation

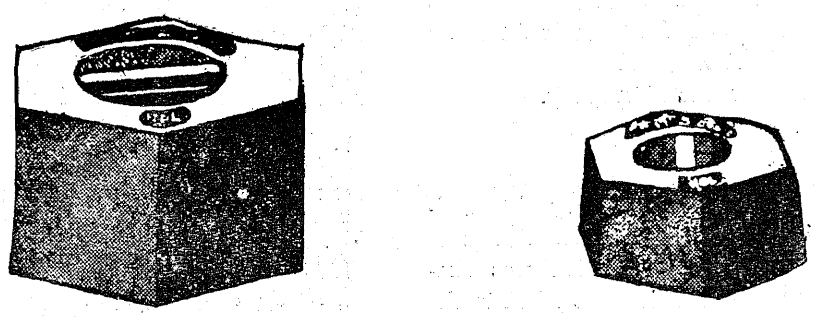
"DESIGNS OF METRIC WEIGHTS"



Brass Weight.



Bullion Weight.



C.I. Weights.

The use of Metric Weights has been made compulsory throughout the State from 1st April 1962. Traders should use only Metric Weights and remove immediately from their places of business, the weights of the denominations of Viss, Seer, Lb. and the like, if such weights are still being kept in those places. Keeping of unauthorised weights in a place of business is punishable under the Madras Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958 (Madras Act XX of 1958), as well as under the Indian Penal Code (Central Act XLV of 1860).

'ONLY METRIC WEIGHTS ARE LEGAL'

(3) The decision regarding the percentage of the tax to the market value of the land and the details of slab rate will be made by the Government as a policy decision. It will be fitted into a standard scale of assessment drawn up for the purpose in respect of each city and approved by Government.

(4) Steps may be taken immediately to prepare a register of urban land assessment in respect of Madras City and sububran areas forthwith.

(5) Urban land tax will be determined by the Officers of the Revenue Department subject to control of the Board of Revenue whose decision shall be final.

(6) The Tax will be revisable once in ten years.

(7) The provisions of the Act may be extended in the first instance to the City of Madras and immediately thereafter to Madurai and Coimbatore and the belt areas round them. It will be extended to other areas at the discretion of the Government.

"The urban land tax has great potentialities. Its importance lies in that it may act as curb on the inflationary trends of urban land values and its revenue is also bound to increase steadily as land values go up. There is a case for its early introduction not only in big cities but in most of the urban areas where there has been practically no taxation on the built up sites. It has to follow almost in the wake of planned housing. It has however to be introduced with some caution, so that it may not have any adverse effects on the development of housing."

Sri Bishnuram Medhi, Governor of Madras, unveiled the statue of Dr. Ambedkar at the Corporation Stadium on November 28, 1963, Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister, presided.

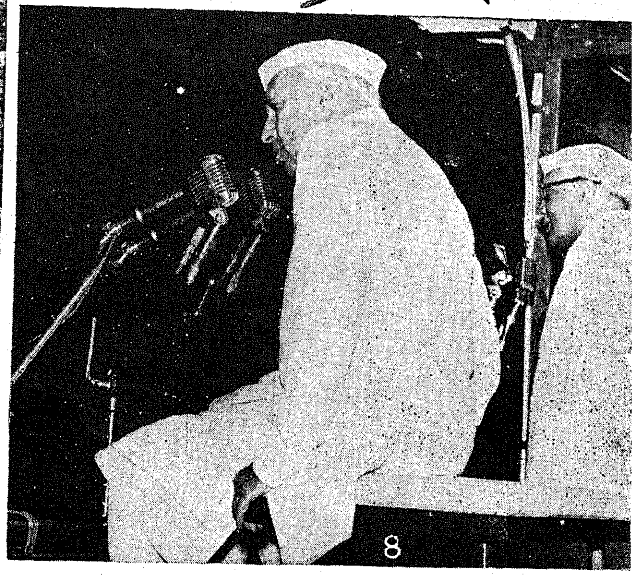
New Transmitter for Tirunelveli

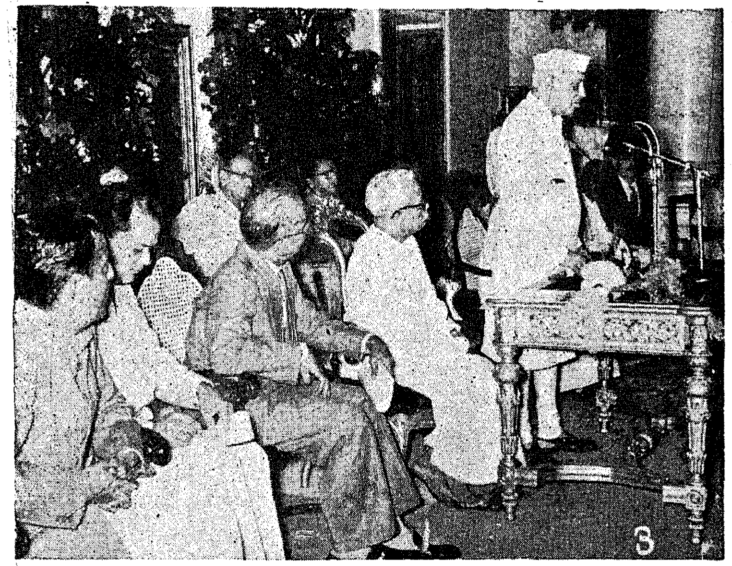
A new medium wave broadcast transmitter went on the air at Tirunelveli on Sunday, December 1, 1963.

This new centre is an auxiliary to the Tiruchi Station of A.I.R. and it will relay its programmes to Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari region of the State of Madras.

The new transmitter operates on a frequency of 1,200 KCs corresponding to a wavelength of 250 metres.

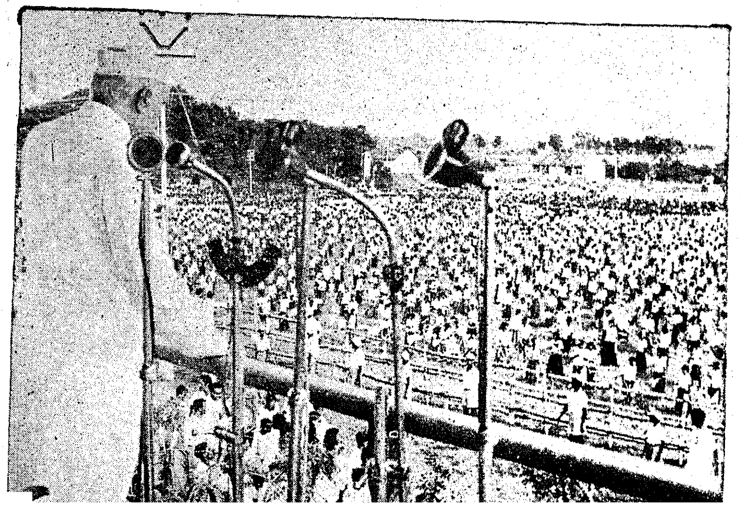
Tirunelveli is the 9th auxiliary centre to be commissioned into service under the medium wave plan of A.I.R. which is mainly aimed at extending the coverage of existing stations of A.I.R. on the medium wave so as to carry it to a larger audience. Such transmitters have already been established at Varanasi, Bikaner, Siliguri, Sambalpur, Cuddapah, Vishakhapatnam, Raipur and Sangli.





PRIME MINISTER'S *Visit to the city and* GANDHIGRAM

1. Prime Minister is seen greeted by Children!
2. Prime Minister is being received by the members of the Reporters' Guild, Madras, on November 30, 1963
3. Sri Nehru is addressing the Journalists
4. Arrival at Gandhigram on December 1, 1963
5. Presiding over the 16th anniversary of Gandhigram
6. Witnessing Children's play festival at Gandhigram
7. Citizen's meeting in North Madras
8. Prime Minister is seen addressing the gathering
9. Sri V. R. Radhakrishnan, the compiler of the book 'Nehruji on Socialism,' is being introduced to the Prime Minister
10. Awarding the diploma to students of Rural Institute
11. The Chief Minister and the Prime Minister
12. The Prime Minister at Gandhigram
13. Prime Ministerat Ambathurai Station



Nagaland becomes Sixteenth State

On December 1, Nagaland emerged as the 16th State of the Indian Union.

Kohima's Parade ground was a riot of colour when President Radhakrishnan invested Nagaland with the authority and responsibility of complete Statehood.

The day was celebrated throughout Nagaland as a happy day of fulfilment of long cherished political aspirations.

It was on August 1, 1960, that Prime Minister Sri Jawaharlal Nehru announced in the Lok Sabha decision of his Government to create a new sixteenth State within the Indian Union. Two years later in August 1962 a Bill for the formation of the State of Nagaland was introduced by him in the Lok Sabha. The Lok Sabha passed the Bill in August 1962 and the President was kind enough to fix December 1st as the formal date for inauguration of the State.

Villages at hill tops

Situated on the extreme eastern frontiers with Burma, Nagaland with its 370,000 population on 6,366 square miles of area is the smallest State in the Union with the lowest density of population, i.e., 62·5 per square mile. Apart from a few hundred square miles of plains in Dinapur, the entire country is covered with ranges of hills, varying in height from 2,000 feet above sea level to 10 000 feet. Most of the Naga villages are situated on the hill tops where they brave the difficulties of water supply and from where the people descend to their fields, usually down in the narrow valleys or on the hill slopes.

Rainfall (approximately 80 inches per year) is sufficient to make it easy for the people to grow their rice crop and get vegetables in plenty. In the plain areas, sugarcane and cotton are also grown.

Although it is very difficult to give any general picture representative of Naga life and culture as most of the 16 major tribes who live here have diffierent customs, festivals and habits, this much is certain that Nagas are brave and simple, unsophisticated, hospitable and hardworking, with love for colourful dances, vigorous music and free unhampered spirit. Despite the frolic and fun they enjoy and zestfulness they show, Nagas take work seriously and work hard for their living.

Fifteen years ago there were only about 150 miles of roads and most of the 858 villages in the State could not be approached by any motor or four vehicular transport. But now more than 2,000 miles of roads, mostly jeepable, link almost all the important places. More roads are under construction and by the end of the Third Five-Year Plan the administration is hopeful of starting its own transport system to make inter-State travelling cheap, easy and speedy.

The State is also making rapid progress in the field of education. Within the next 5 years, the administration hopes to give one primary school to every village. Out of 716 schools and colleges there are two Teachers' Training Institutes, two Degree Colleges and 28 High Schools. The total student population is over 69,000, i.e., 19 per cent of the population.

These students work hard not only for their studies but during their spare time they help their parents in the fields and in the villages in raising up their huts and in weaving beautiful shawls and ties. Handicrafts are not many but the natural aesthetic awareness which the weavers and craftsmen demonstrate here points to the possibility of building up a great tradition of small-scale industries and handicrafts in the State. And the Government is very much alive to this fact. It is helping the villagers by subsidising the raw material and has a scheme to open Naga emporiums in Delhi, Calcutta and Gauhati to popularise Naga crafts.

Terraced cultivation

Agriculture is the mainstay of the State. Angamis in the Kohima district excel in the art of making terraces and the terraced cultivation in Angami area is already famous in the world. Efforts are being made to educate the people and popularise terracing in the other two districts and previous jhumed fields are gradually giving way to terraced fields. More than 80 per cent of Nagas depend on agriculture. Although nature has

President Dr. Radhakrishnan being introduced by Sri P. Shilu Ao, Chief Minister, Nagaland, to Interim Body Members on his arrival at Kohima on December 1, 1963

Territorial Army Day was celebrated at Fort Glacier Madras, on November 16, 1963. Sri Bishuram Medhi, Governor of Madras presided.

been kind, rain adequate for cultivation and soil fertile, the total land area available for cultivation had not been adequate for a greater measure of self-sufficiency. It is estimated that total area available for agricultural purposes is about seven lakhs acres and the Government is set to reclaim it for cultivation. Since 1957 over 20 million rupees have been spent in reclaiming more areas, distributing improved seeds and subsidising the purchase of implements and construction of irrigational channels. Efforts are being made to educate the people in latest methods of agriculture and to popularise terracing in the districts of Mokokchung and Tuensang. Government has set one big demonstration farm for supplying seeds, etc. There are also other 75 demonstration centres for educating the farmers in the latest methods of cultivation. Recently Government has also introduced ploughing by bullocks and in plain areas the help of tractors is also being used.

Tribal welfare

There are 16 Development Blocks in the State out of which four have been converted into Tribal Welfare Development Blocks. All the remaining blocks, which now cover the entire State, will be converted to Tribal Development Blocks by the end of the Fourth Plan.

Another urgent work which faces the Administration is the issue of public health. And naturally enough a major part of the State budget is ear-marked for this subject.

In place of a few small hospitals which existed some ten years ago, more than 24 well equipped general hospitals are now working in the State.

Directly connected with public health is the supply of drinking water. Because of the normal location of Naga villages on the top of high hills, the village women were mostly busy in carrying water from pools, springs or mountain streams from pretty long distances. To provide these folk more leisure, better health and good drinking water, the Administration has spent more than Rs. 12 lakhs to supply piped water to the people. Several more schemes are under way and the administration has plans to provide all villages with this basic necessity.

Nagaland has great potentialities of generation of hydel power. During the last two years eight of the townships have been provided with electric current. With the coming of cheap electric power, the administration hopes that new and modern industries will grow very rapidly, specially here where the dearth of local man-power is acute.

Forest wealth

Although tall hills with green trees is the common sight there are only 127 square miles of reserve forests in the State. The administration is keen on developing forests, this being the only source of income at present.

The species of trees available include ever-green deciduous and semi-deciduous. The timber which we get is light hard-wood. There are, in places, plenty of bamboos and grasses and medicinal herbs.

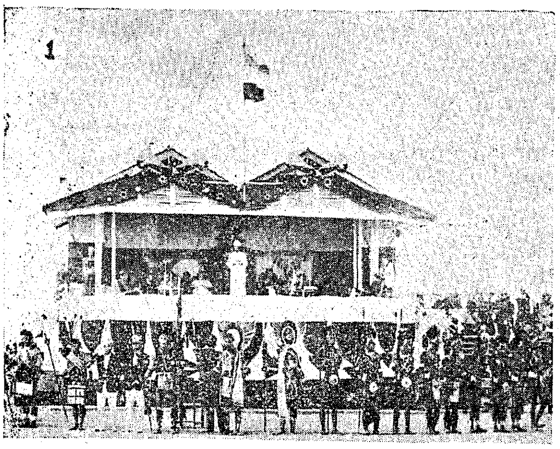
The administration is also trying to plant various fruit trees and it is hoped that the State may be able to produce in large quantity citrus fruits, bananas, cashew-nuts, etc. Apples and Papita are there and efforts are afoot to produce a really delicious type of apples.

The people

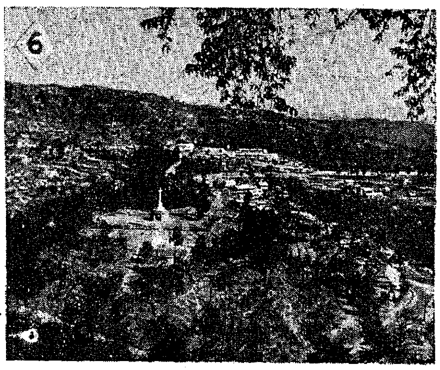
According to latest estimate the total population of Nagaland is a little over 370,000. Although the term Naga is applied loosely to a set of people living mainly in Nagaland, there is a sizeable minority in Manipur (125,000) and Tirap Division (40,000). Even more recently Nagas remained confined into small insular groups of tribes and clans. There are 15 to 20 main tribal groups. They differ so widely with one another in several respects—in customs, observance of rites and rituals and habits—that it will be impossible to put forward any one theory of their origin. But one thing is certain that after the emergence of independence they have now voluntarily submerged their distinctive characteristics and different ways of life to form one compact and coherent State and further to add a new virility to the variegated life of India the home of various tribes, races and religions.

The name and population of major tribal groups living in Nagaland are as follows :—

Angamis ..	32,000	Aos	57,000
Chakhesangs.	33,000	Changs ..	20,000
Khinmungans.	18,000	Konvaks ..	70,000
Lothas ..	28,000	Sangtams ..	24,000
Semas ..	37,000	Yimchungrs ..	18,000
Phoms ..	13,000	Ziliangkukis ..	10,000
Rengmas ..	4,500	Others including Gorkhas.	5,500



The Birth of A New State Nagaland



1. Inauguration Ceremony

2. Naga girls are very hard working

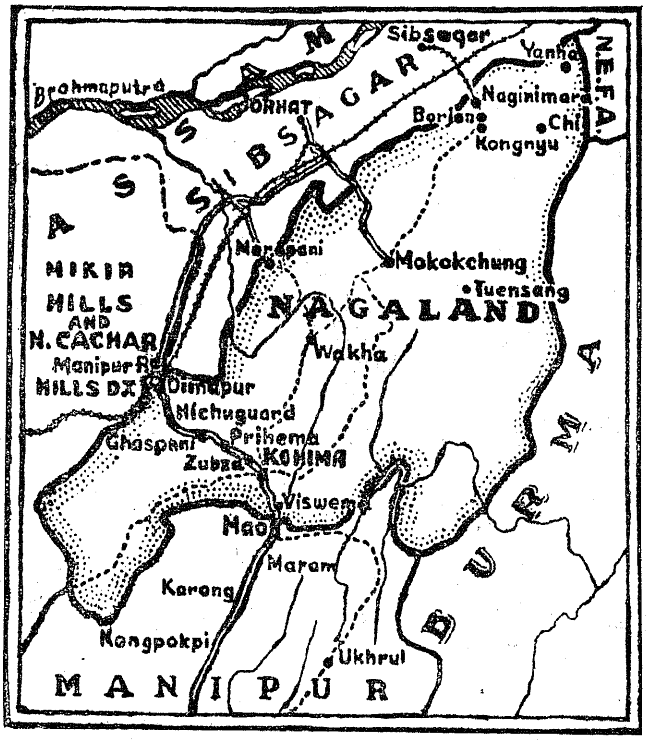
3. A Naga stands on Guard in Tuensang against hostiles

4. Naga girls wearing their National Dress

5. A view of terraced cultivation, In the background is a Village

6. A view of Kohima, Capital of Nagaland

There are 860 villages in Nagaland and most of them are situated on hill tops and are widely spread from one another. Traditions have it that these villages were constructed within an eye-on safety and protection from the other villagers who were normally considered not very friendly. As every village was to be a fort the people living in it had by force of circumstances to remain isolated from others. Every village tried to become self-sufficient and self-dependent. Feuds, problems and issues concerning the village were solved by reference to the village councils.



It is a welcome sign and healthy development that personal jealousies, tribal differences and local feuds have given way to oneness of feeling, mutual trust and common interest for the uplift of the State.

To those whose knowledge of Nagaland does not go beyond some queer anthropological notions of head-hunting, etc., may be surprised to know that Nagas place highest value on the human life and their rituals and rites, superstitions and prayers are meant for the welfare of human beings. Simple of habits and sportive Nagas can be very good friends if treated with sympathy and kindness. Hardy and intelligent, they do not despise manual work and even the persons in highest places would devote some time to their kitchen garden or their ancestral fields.

With the change of time and specially with the formation of the new State security to all is provided and general distrust is replaced by mutual respect and friendship. There will be, thus, no need of continuing an isolated life on difficult terrain. Now the bigger villages can be planned, better roads can be built, drainage system introduced, pure water supplied and all the normal facilities of life assured to persons living in the State. With the advent of schools and colleges and with the introduction of corporate life, Nagas, always ready to work hard, are sure to make rapid advance in all spheres of human activity. Already they have made the best of the opportunity provided to them by the formation of NHTA and now, Nagaland.

First Sounding Rocket successfully launched by India

India entered the field of space research with the successful launching of the first sounding rocket from Thumba near Trivandrum, on November 21, 1963. The 26-foot-long two-stage rocket roared into the sky with a bright silver glow, followed by a cascade of sparks. The first stage was completed in three and a half seconds, releasing the second stage of the rocket which travelled to a height of 180 kilometres The 70-pound payload of sodium vapour was then released. The pink-coloured vapour cloud was visible to the naked eye many miles away, and two of the four camera stations reported that visibility was very good. The object of the experimental launching was to study movements in the higher atmosphere. Photographs of the vapour cloud would help scientists in studying atmospheric winds and temperature at high altitudes.

The Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Dr. Bhabha, who was present when the rocket was launched, described the experiment as extremely successful. He said India expected to manufacture a rocket of her own within 18 months. The rocket was launched by Indian scientists with the co-operation of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States.

Mid term Appraisal of the Third Plan

During the past two years, India has made substantial progress in sectors like Transport, Power, Coal, Machine, Building and Basic Industries. But the annual rate of increase in National Income in the first two years of the Third Plan has been of the order of only 2·5 per cent, largely because of a setback in agriculture.

There has been, however, no proportionate setback in investment which has, in fact, increased steadily and has been at high levels in several strategic areas. During the first three years of the Third Plan, the total plan outlay in the public sector is expected to be Rs. 4,198 crores. Over the five years of the Plan, subject to availability of resources, the total outlay is now expected to be about Rs. 8,000 crores.

Foreign exchange position continued to be difficult. Although commitments to the extent of Rs. 2,100 crores are now in sight, additional non-project assistance needed over the next two years amounts to Rs. 450 crores.

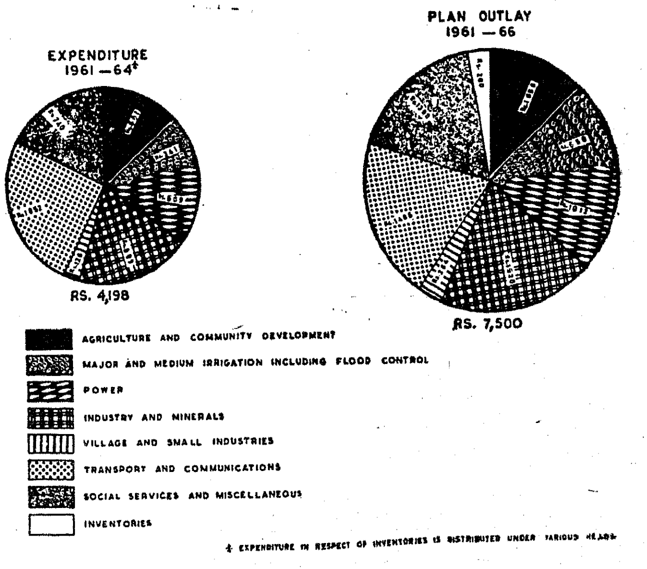
During the first year of the plan, the general price index declined by 3·6 per cent and in the second year it rose by 3 per cent. But since March last it has risen by over 8 per cent. The bulk of the increase has been in food articles, especially rice, sugar and gur.

These facts are contained in the report on the Mid-term Appraisal of the Third Five-Year Plan (1961-66) prepared by the Planning Commission, which was presented to Parliament recently.

The report draws attention to the fact that for over a year the Third Plan has been implemented against the background of a serious threat to national security and a continuing emergency which has brought new burdens and responsibilities. The National Development Council viewed the Plan as an integral part of national defence and, in November 1962, called for its successful and speedy implementation with the necessary reorientation to meet the emergency. Accordingly, the immediate priorities of the Plan were re-examined with a view to adapting it to the urgent requirements of defence. In particular, plans for industry, transport, power and scientific and technical manpower were stepped up and a larger agricultural effort was proposed. Economies in construction and in the use of scarce materials were also stressed.

Efforts to mobilise resources for development, which were already under way, were considerably enlarged under the stress of the emergency. Against a target of

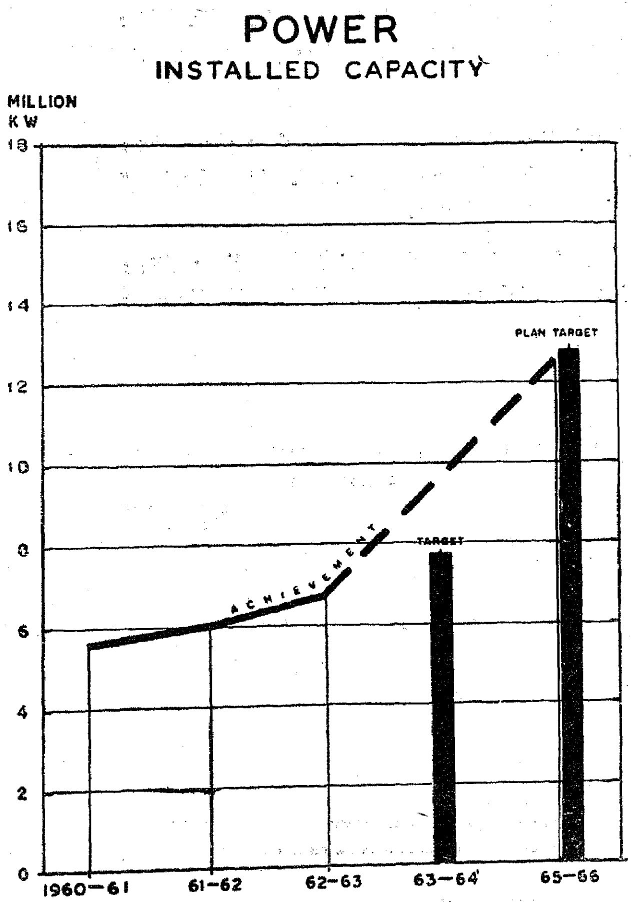
THIRD PLAN OUTLAY AND EXPENDITURE
(RS. CRORES)



additional taxation of Rs. 1,750 crores indicated in the Third Plan, during the first three years of the Plan, the Central and State Governments have undertaken taxation yielding about Rs. 2,400 crores over the plan period. Investment in many strategic areas has been at a high level and has also increased steadily from year to year. With assistance from friendly countries and from international agencies, foreign exchange requirements have been substantially covered in some sectors, notably in power, expansion of steel plants, railways, ports and oil. However, in a number of important fields there are still significant gaps and import requirements for components and raw materials are not being adequately met.

Financial position

Budgetary outlay of the Central and State Governments, covering both developmental and non-developmental expenditure, increased substantially during the Third Plan period. Normal tax receipts have turned out more buoyant than estimated earlier. However non-plan expenditures, particularly those connected with national security, have also shown large increase.



The tax measures taken so far by the Centre will yield roughly Rs. 1,900 crores, about Rs. 800 crores more than the target. However, the contribution of the States indicated at Rs. 610 crores, would be short by about Rs. 185 crores on the basis of the measures taken in the first three years.

The cost of Third Plan public sector programmes was initially reckoned at Rs. 8,300 crores against the financial provision of Rs. 7,500 crores. Since then some additions have been made in transport, communication and power programmes. Considering the actual pace of implementation, however, the total outlay over the Plan period in the public sector, subject to availability of resources, might be close to Rs. 8,000 crores, out of which Rs. 4,198 crores is expected to be spent in the first three years.

Agriculture

In the Third Plan the greatest emphasis was placed on agriculture, which obviously holds the key to rapid economic growth. During the first two years of the Plan, seasonal conditions were unfavourable, and the actual levels of production of foodgrains and other crops did not correspond with the efforts made to increase agricultural production.

The index number of agricultural production which increased from 116·8 in 1955–56 to 139·6 in 1960–61 rose to 141·4 in 1961–62 and fell to 136·8 (provisional) in 1962–63. Foodgrains production which had gone up to 79·7 million tons in 1961–62 declined to 77·5 million tons in 1962–63. On present indications, in comparison with estimates in the Third Plan, there may be a shortfall of the order of 3 to 5 million tons in the output of foodgrains. There may also be some shortfall in cotton and oil seeds. In respect of jute and sugarcane however, the estimates of production are expected to be achieved. The estimates for rubber, coffee, tea and tobacco are also likely to be realised.

The report notes that until recently organisational and administrative efforts and resources devoted to the implementation of agricultural production programmes have not been commensurate with the requirements of the Plan and makes a number of suggestions for strengthening the implementation of agricultural development programmes and intensifying production efforts, especially in areas with irrigation and assured rainfall and in those selected for the intensive development of different crops.

Achievements during the first three years of the Plan include increases in the area benefiting from minor irrigation programmes by 7 million acres, soil conservation programmes 4·4 million acres, improved seeds 46 million acres, green manuring 12·3 million acres, plant protection measures 6 million acres and increase in the supply of nitrogenous fertilisers from 200,000 tons to 450,000 tons (in terms of N). Intensive agricultural district programme now extends to 17 districts. Intensive development of rice and millets has been taken up in 40 and 76

districts respectively, and of cotton, jute and sugarcane in a number of selected areas. The number of community development blocks have increased from 3,100 to 5,183, thus covering almost the entire rural area. A number of steps have been taken to re-orient the community development programmes so as to secure greater concentration on agricultural production. The Rural Works Programme now covers more than 800 community development blocks and is proposed to be extended during the next two years to another 1,000 to 1,200 blocks.

Industry

Since the beginning of the Second Plan, valuable experience has been gained in planning for industrial development and executing industrial projects.

In the plans of industrial development, public and private sectors have important complementary roles. In the Third Plan a wide range of important tasks were assigned to the private sector. However, progress on the part of private sector has lagged behind in a number of key industries. Shortfalls in these fields will have repercussions on future development and it is necessary to devise appropriate means for ensuring that major targets assigned to the private sector are in fact realised in keeping with the requirements of the economy and the scheme of the Plan.

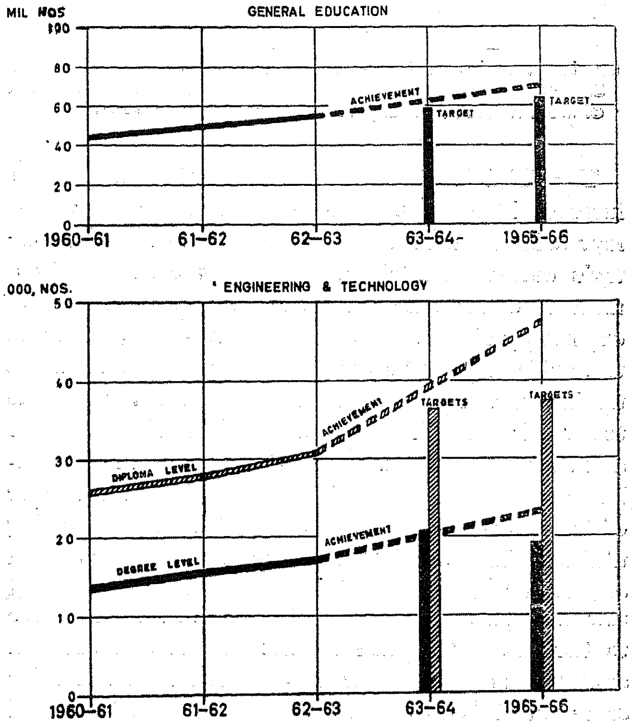
General index of industrial production increased by 6·5 per cent in 1961–62 and 8 per cent in 1962–63 as against the average increase of about 11 per cent visualised in the Third Plan. There was significantly larger growth of producer goods and basic industries (e.g., steel, aluminium, machine tools, fertilisers, caustic soda, etc.,) compared to the general index. Compared to the level of production in 1960, the output in basic metal industry increased by 26 per cent, metal products by 69 per cent, machinery by 22 per cent and chemical products by 23 per cent.

Investment

Investment during the Plan period on public sector programmes is likely to be higher than originally visualised. Projects under Heavy Engineering Corporation, Hindustan Machine Tools, and Heavy Electricals, and the fertiliser plants at Rourkela, Alwaye and Trombay progressed satisfactorily. The three public sector steel plants have attained their targets of 1 million tons of ingot steel each. Work on their expansion programme and on the Bokaro Steel Project has, however, been considerably delayed. Fertiliser units at Naharkatiya and Gorakhpur are behind schedule. Projects for manufacture of ball and roller bearing and compressors are in initial stages. The Phyto-Chemical Project (Kerala), Organic Intermediates Projects (Maharashtra) and Heavy Plate and Vessel Plant (Wardha) have been considerably delayed.

In the private sector, during the first two years of the Plan, conditions were generally favourable for investment and licenses to cover the Third Plan targets were issued for a large number of industries. Progress in the

PROGRESS of GENERAL & TECHNICAL EDUCATION



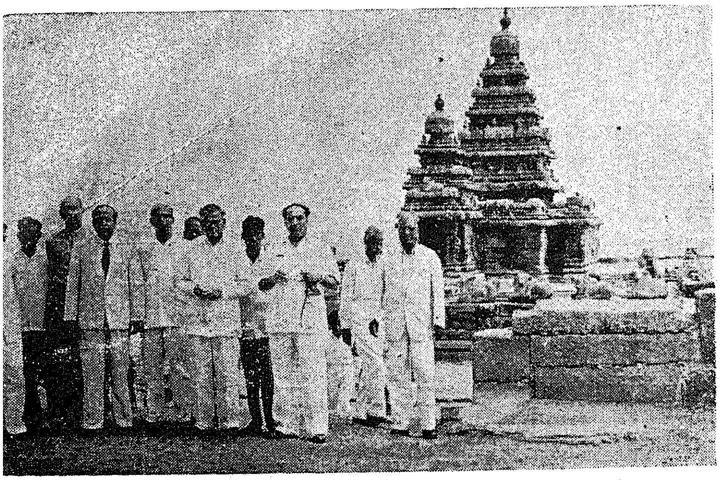
private sector in several important industries like alloy tool and steel aluminium, steel castings and forgings, machine tools, certain types of machinery, cement, fertilisers, paper and newsprint, etc., has been unsatisfactory.

Power

The installed capacity at the end of the Third Plan is expected to be 12·5 million K.W. against the target of 12·7 million K.W. The Plan target of 45 million K.W. hours generated is, however, expected to be achieved and possibly exceeded as a result of likely improvements in the utilisation of planned capacity. In order to mitigate power shortages in certain areas, some additional power schemes have been accepted in the Plan.

Transport

The transport situation which was difficult when the Plan was formulated improved considerably in 1962 and the improvement has since been maintained. There has been, in particular, improvement in the coal transport position. Substantial additions have been made in the programmes for railways and roads and the estimated expenditure under these heads will now be about Rs. 450 crores higher than the Plan provision. In view of the emergency, road programmes have been considerably expanded.



Dr. H. A. Bhaba, Chairman of Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary General, Atomic Energy Department, Government of India visited Mahabalipuram on November 24, 1963.

The Third Plan had visualised a substantial effort for increase in exports. The programme for exports is now being implemented as an integral part of the country's development plans. There has been already a measure of response, but to raise the annual level of exports by about a third over the five-year period and to double exports by the end of the Fourth Plan, are uphill tasks. In this connection, reference may be made to a problem, which affects production both in the private and the public sectors. There is at present an appreciable gap between the available capacities in a number of industries and the extent to which these are being utilised. In part this is a question of allocating foreign exchange to meet critical shortage of components and raw materials. This difficulty becomes easier to resolve to the extent to which exports expand and external assistance is available for non-project imports. At the same time, it is important that requirements of imported components and raw materials in the future should be kept to the minimum. This calls for systematic import substitution in each industry and forward planning for the effective and co-ordinated use of all available indigenous capacities.

Social services

A steady expansion has been maintained in both general and technical education at all levels, and Plan targets are likely to be exceeded. At the same time, deterioration in standards is reflected by over-crowding of classes and unfavourable teacher-pupil ratio. Shortage of teachers for technical education and teaching of science is particularly acute. States have been urged to give more attention to measures for maintenance and improvement of standards of education. In view of the emergency, additional facilities have been created for technical education and it is expected that the Plan target of annual admission to technical degree courses will be exceeded by 4,000 and to technical diploma courses by about 10,000. The target of students in schools is likely to be exceeded by 4 million. The number of scholarships and fellowships under various programmes have been substantially increased.

Institutional facilities for medical care have substantially increased during the first two years of the

Plan and some of the targets may be exceeded. Primary health units are, however, progressing slowly because of the shortage of doctors.

The number of family planning clinics at the end of the Second Plan was 2,136 (1,379 rural and 757 urban). During the first two years of the Third Plan, 200 urban and 660 rural clinics have been added, bringing the total number of clinics to 3,005. Facilities for free sterilisation operations have been made available on a fairly wide scale. It is reported that by February 1963, 3·35 lakh persons were sterilised. On the whole, however, total impact of the programme, specially in rural areas, has not been appreciable so far. A Committee has been set up to review and suggest ways and means for improving this.

Plan implementation

In recent years a wide range of measures to strengthen administration have been taken or initiated, both at the Centre and in the States. Yet, in their practical aspects, problems of implementation are still of formidable dimensions and events since the beginning of the Third Plan have further emphasised the need for concentrated and sustained action towards the attainment of high levels of performance, better training of personnel, systematic reporting and evaluation and a greater responsibility and initiative on the part of different agencies within the administrative structure.

A high level Committee on Administration has been constituted within the Central Government. Several States, e.g., Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh have taken concerted measures to increase administrative efficiency and to bring close study to bear on their administrative problems.

Existing Planning machinery in the States need early strengthening in view of the wide range of responsibilities being cast upon State Governments. The aspects to be specially emphasised are evaluation, manpower planning, mobilisation of resources, technical project studies, arrangements for obtaining statistical information and systematic reporting and review of progress.

The report emphasises that one of the main lessons of the emergency is that defence production and civil production have to be viewed together at each step in terms of a common and continuing economic plan, which comprehends production, transport, power, research, training and use of technical and scientific manpower as well as wider social goals. Already the Third Plan had vast administrative implications and called for high standards of efficiency co-ordination and concentration of resources at vital points and the participation of millions of people in the national endeavour. The emergency has further enhanced the significance of these conditions.

YARN SUPPLIES:
Madras Government's Plan

The Government of Madras have planned the setting up of 13 spinning mills, on a co-operative basis, as part of long-term strategy to prevent recurrence of shortage of yarn supplies of certain counts, said Sri M. Baktavatsalam, Chief Minister of Madras, while inaugurating the 20th meeting of the All India Handloom Board at Madras.

He recalled the experience of production units in some of the important districts where there was lack of supplies of yarn in particular counts and said the idea was that there should be at least one mill in each district. Three mills of this type were already working and providing the raw materials to the handloom industry on an assured basis. Arrangements for the setting up of the remaining, added the Chief Minister, were under way.

Liberal attitude required

One important problem connected with the early setting up of co-operative spinning mills, Sri Bhaktavatsalam pointed out, was the resources required for these mills. The sum total of resources coming forward from co-operative societies, banks, weavers, etc., had been found in practice to be insufficient to meet all the known demands for the complete erection and working of the units. "It is necessary," he urged, "that financial institutions and the banks including the Reserve Bank of India should adopt a liberal attitude in assisting the sponsors of these mills, with sufficient money for the purchase of land and buildings and the capital equipment necessary as also the working capital required so that production in the co-operative mills may be started and continued without interruption."

Outlining the schemes implemented by the State Government for rehabilitation of the handloom weavers the Chief Minister mentioned the construction of housing colonies and the introduction of the Contributory Thrift Fund Scheme as among the most important.

Accumulation of stocks

Referring to the cyclical factor in the marketing of goods, the accumulation of stocks over a period of seasonal off-take, the Chief Minister observed that even after the peak period of sale, an unprecedented accumulation of goods had to be cleared by special extended sanction of rebates last year. This, in its wake, led to strain on the resources of the apex and primary societies. "The ideal of a self-sufficient financial structure for the marketing of goods by building up adequate owned resources is also therefore well worth attempting to be evolved" he added.

At the outset, the Chief Minister briefly outlined the rapid progress handloom industry had made during the last ten years and the place it occupied as the most important cottage industry in the State providing employment for about 20 lakhs of people. "Out of 30 lakhs handlooms in the country, about 5·16 lakhs are concentrated in this State accounting for an annual production of about 500 million yards of handloom fabrics."

Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister, who inaugurated the All India Handloom Board meeting on November 26, 1963 at Balasundaram Buildings, Pantheon Road, is seen in the picture addressing the representatives

Tudiyalur Co-operative Bank's Record

To what extent a co-operative rural bank can mobilise the savings of the rural community and at the same time cater to the varying service needs of the agriculturists is shown by the working of the co-operative rural bank in Tudiyalur, a few miles from Coimbatore. This institution has been a friend, philosopher and guide of the people in Tudiyalur and the surrounding area and is now looked upon as almost a Socrates in the village.

This co-operative bank is the first among the institutions started under a pilot scheme of the Madras Government for setting up large-sized co-operatives in rural areas. The area of operations of the bank covers 13 revenue villages with a radius of 5 miles around Tudiyalur.

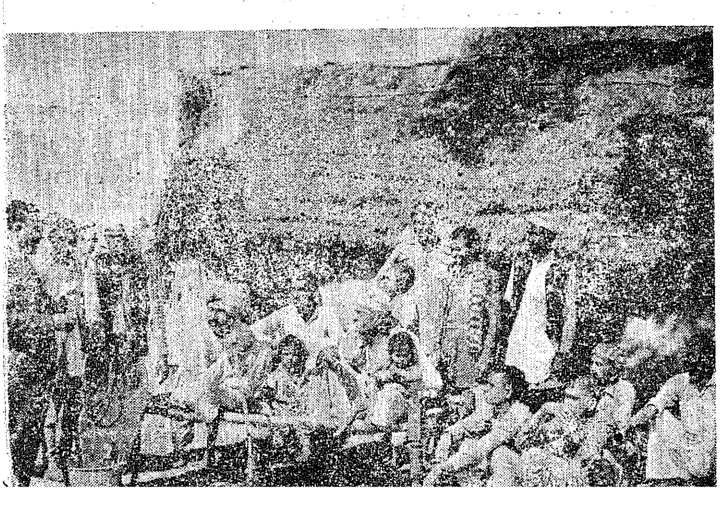
The unique features of the bank are that its shares are on a guaranteed liability basis instead of on the usual unlimited or limited liability basis in the case of all primary co-operative institutions. The bylaws of this institution provide for all banking facilities like a scheduled bank, besides service aspects such as provision of manure, implements, seeds and insecticides.

From its inception the bank concentrated on mobilising rural savings for augmenting its financial resources and to-day Rs. 6,00,000 have been deposited by the villagers with the bank in the small area in which it operates. In spite of the fact that because of the proximity of the bank to Coimbatore, which is a highly industrialised area where interest rates rule high, the bank has managed to secure substantial deposits from the small agriculturists and it is expected to be financially self-supporting within a short period. The share capital of the bank which was Rs. 28,600 at its inception in April 1955 has now gone up to Rs. 1,60,797.

Variety of services

Apart from mobilising rural savings and providing rural credit, the bank has undertaken a variety of services to the agriculturists who constitute the bulk of its members. The bank distributes every year to its member ryots nearly 20,000 lb. of certain popular varieties of cotton seeds with a view to improve cotton production which is the main commercial crop in the area. The bank obtains the seeds from the Agricultural Department of the State Government and these are sown in selected plots under the supervision and technical guidance of the Agricultural Department staff. The seeds, thus multiplied, are tested by the Department and re-distributed to the ryots for further propagation. The bank expects to meet the entire seed requirements of its members shortly.

Malaria Eradication Unit Officer explains the spraying programme to the Villagers

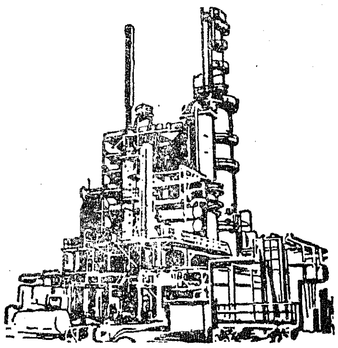


The State Government has given permission to this institution to prepare, stock and sell fertilizer mixtures for various crops. The bank is now marketing these mixtures not only to its members but to members of 45 other co-operative institutions in the Coimbatore district. Mixed fertilizers of the value of Rs. 3½ lakhs were prepared and sold to members of co-operative institutions at controlled prices during the last financial year.

Since it began functioning, the bank is also implementing a scheme to control the pest attacks on various crops with Government's technical and financial help. The bank has purchased 95 hand-operated sprayers and 30 dusters and is hiring them out to ryots on a nominal charge. On an average the bank is covering each year six to eight thousand acres and earns by way of hire charges nearly Rs. 3,000 from its members. Annually, the bank sells Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 30,000 worth of insecticides. It is also lending on hire improved implements like ploughs, bund formers, levellers, iron ploughs, dusters, etc., to its members.

That the bank has come to stay and is expanding its activities is established by the fact that its net profit has been increasing year by year and has gone up from Rs. 762 in the first year of its working to nearly Rs. 50,000 in 1962-63.

Oil



- EFFICIENT AND ECONOMIC FUEL

(Contributed)

Oil is an integrated industry. From exploration, production, refining to marketing is a continuous process. International oil companies are run on integrated lines. The Union Government, therefore, having created an organisation for exploration and production of oil (Oil and Natural Gas Commission) created an organisation for constructing and operating the refineries (Indian Refineries Limited) followed with another organisation for distribution and marketing the petroleum products (Indian Oil Company).

The affluent society of today lives by energy available easily, plentifully and cheaply. There is an increasing demand for energy and today, the most rapidly developing energy is petroleum, i.e., oil and natural gas.

About half the energy needs of the modern world is met by oil. In 1961, the world production in oil increased by 67 million tons, and the largest producer refiner consumer of oil in the world is the U. S. A. It is increasingly apparent that oil will be meeting more and more of the world's avid appetite for energy in the future. The spectacular growth of oil is largely because it is an efficient and economic fuel.

A Challenging task

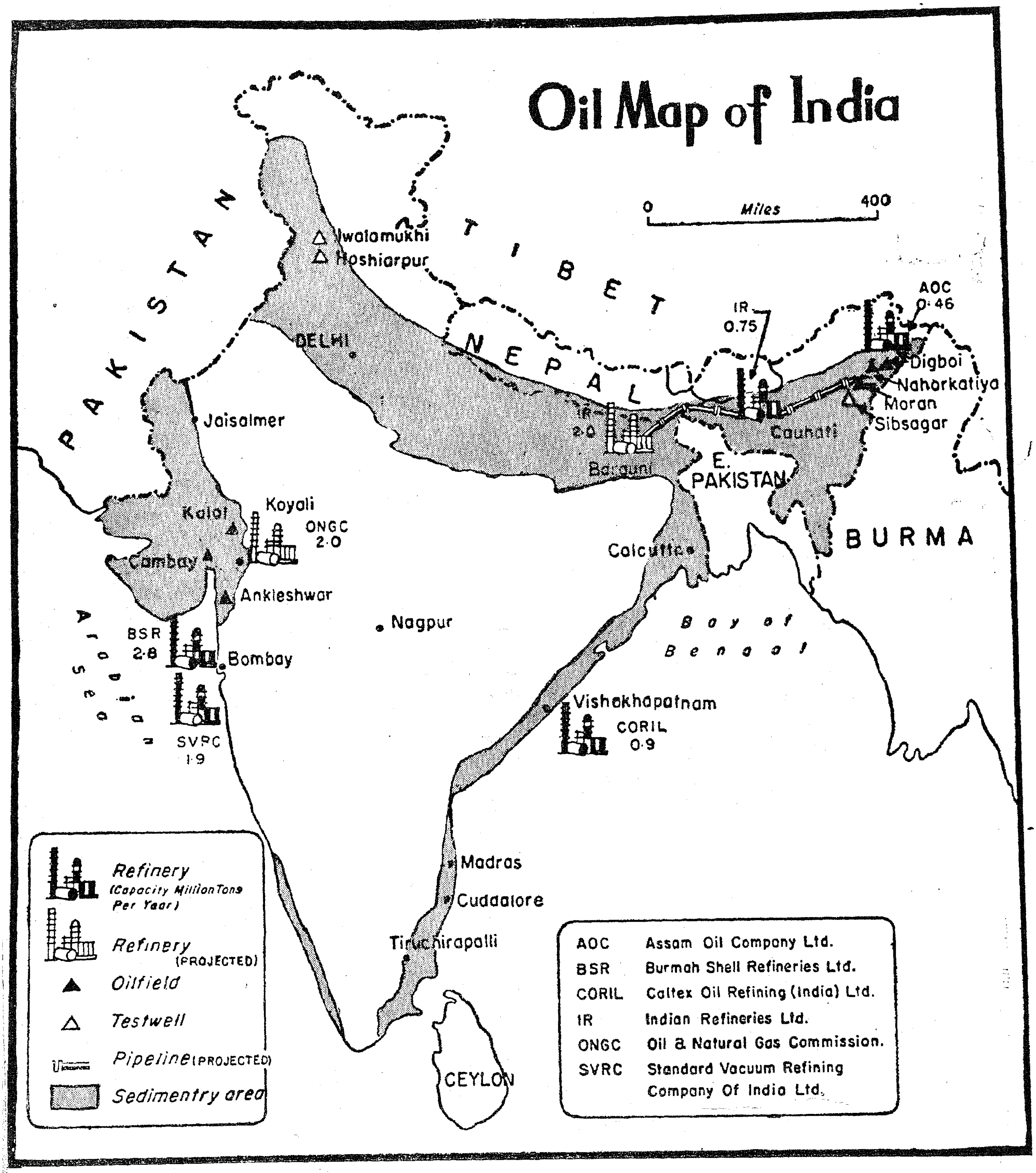
To provide oil to the world economically and continuously is a challenging task which the industry has successfully tackled. Apart from U. S. A. and U. S. S. R. which are self-sufficient, 80 per cent of the rest of the world's requirements is found in the Milddle-East and the Carribean where the consumption is only 5 per cent.

Oil is today the largest commodity in the international trade, both by value and volume, accounting for about half the sea-borne trade.

For modern industrial societies, and for those striving to attain this status, abundant mechanical energy is indispensable. Fuel and power are needed to keep the wheels of industry and transport turning to bring about new economic development and to provide people with the amenities of modern life.

India is witnessing, very largely due to the tempo of growth an energy revolution—a revolution in which the oil industry has to play its part. This business of energy revolution is inevitable in the context of Indian development. The more energy a nation consumes per capita, the more prosperous the nation tends to be. Virtually, all economic activity involves the use of energy in some form.

Sri G. Bhuvarahan, Minister for Information and Publicity, presided over Adi Andhra Students Congress anniversary celebration at Royapuram on November 19, 1963



Mineral oil, or petroleum, is seldom found in the States it comes to be sold. It is in a complex form and its components have to be separated by various methods such as distillation, special treatment and refining for marketing purposes. Oil occurs mostly in sedimentary basis of marine origin and may be formed in rocks of practically all ages, some of which may be as old as 500 million years. In early days, oil prospecting was considered as purely empirical and drilling was confined to places where evidences were found of surface oil seepages. The seepages were soon exhausted. In those days a crude drill was forced into the ground to

strike oil. Today with highly technical equipments like the gravimeter which measures the forces of gravity due to the rocks and the seismometer, use to detect sound and by the intensity of its sound reflection, the depths of the various strata can be calculated, oil is discovered.

Test drilling

The stage next to discovery of oil is test drilling. With the help of a drilling equipment holes are bored into the ground to strike oil. If large quantities of oil is found a well is formed and oil pumped through pipes which is the production stage.

The crude petroleum when it leaves the well is a mixture of oil, gas, water and sand. It is therefore led to a gas trap which separates the gas from the water, sand and oil. The " wet " gas is passed on to an absorption plant. Here it is dried by extracting liquid products such as natural gasoline, propane, butane and isobutane. The mixture of oil, sand and water flows to a settling tank, where water, sand and other impurities are removed and the crude oil is pumped to storage tanks.

The production stage is finished.

It is now ready to be passed on to refinery.

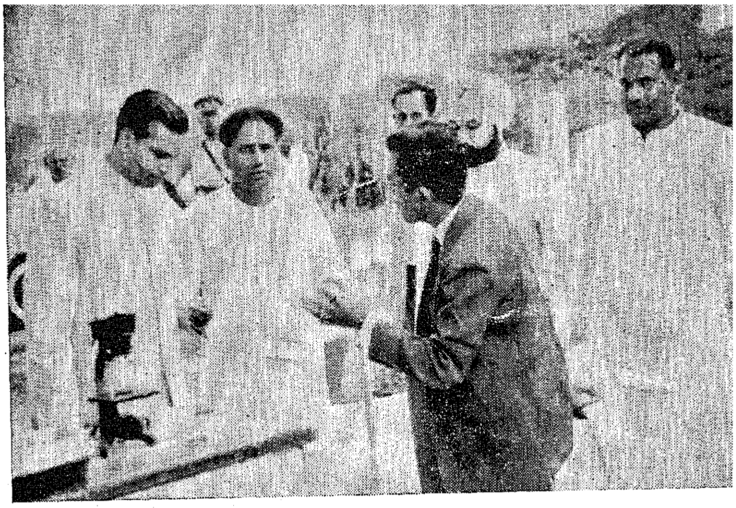
The refinery of petroleum into its various commercial products is essentially a distillation process involving the principle of joint production two or more products being necessarily obtained from a single refinery process. A complete refinery will carry the distillation process beyond the petroleum stage, turning out the whole range of petroleum products from gasoline to lubricants with a paraffin or asphalt residue.

Oil in India

Exploration :—Oil exploration in India goes back to 1860, drilling for oil was started in the jungles of Assam in 1866 and with some success too. A regular production was however, achieved by 1889 at Digbhoi. Since then the Assam Oil Company's fields are being commercially exploited. A major discovery was the Nahorkatiya and Moran fields in the years 1953 and 1956. These areas have been taken over by Oil India Limited, a Government of India and Burmah Oil Company joint enterprise. Oil has also been discovered at Ankaleshwar and Kalol in Gujerat district.

Oil in Gujerat

Apart from the belt running from Ankleswar to Cambay, a distance of about 100 miles, where deep drilling has proved several oil bearing horizons, oil has also been struck near Kalol about 15 miles from Ahmedabad.



Sri G. Bhuvarahan, Minister for Information and Publicity visited the Fisheries Research Station at Bhavanisagar recently and opened the Ice-Plant

Assam—The Noonmati Refinery was set up in 1955-56 with a capacity of 0·75m. tons based on Nahorkatiya Moran Crude discovered in 1954. The development of the oil fields at Nahorkatiya and Moran is being effected at a rapid pace so as to create a potential of 3 m. tons crude output by the end of 1964. The Noonmati refinery has been set up as a joint venture of the Central and State Governments, the former subscribing 75 per cent of its share capital and the latter 25 per cent. The Nahorkatiya and Moran oil fields are being developed by Oil India Limited, a 50-50 partnership between the Government of India and the Burmah Oil Company. Soviet Indian Co-operation in the sphere of oil industry is also developing very successfully.

Since 1957 the Soviet Union has been rendering effective technical assistance to India in the exploration and development of oil and gas fields and in the establishment of a national oil industry.

Oil was struck in Cambay in September 1958, in Ankaleshwar in May 14, 1960, in Kalol in June 1960, in Rudrasagar (Assam) in December 1960. Altogether eight oil and gas fields have been discovered in India with the help of Soviet specialists. Oil is now actually being produced in India in the public sector. Suffice to say that the Ankaleshwar oil fields alone yields 2,000 tons of oil daily. It produced in 1962, over 300,000 tons of oil, saving millions of rupees in foreign exchange.

In the past decade

During the last ten years, more than 200 wells have been drilled for oil in India.135 by Assam Oil Company, and Oil India Limited in Assam; 70 by O. N. G. C. largely in Gujerat, and 10 by Stanvac in West Bengal. With the rising demand for oil in India which is expected to double itself during the Third Plan period to about 17—18 m. tons and consequently a proportionate rise in the foreign exchange requirements, which amounted to about Rs. 80 crores in 1961, the search for oil has assumed considerable importance.

About 400,000 sq. miles of sedimentary area is open for prospecting in the country. Realising the immensity and urgency of the task, the Government of India modified its earlier policy of restricting oil exploration to the State only. The result has been an agreement with the Burmah Oil Company. The French Institute of Petroleum is assisting O.N.G.C. as contractors in the exploratory work at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan. The Italian Oil Company, ENI, is reported to have also come to a similar agreement for prospecting in other areas such as Assam and parts of the Gangetic Valley.

Production

In 1961, the oil production in India was about 440,000 tons from the oil field of Digbhoi and Nahorkatiya in Assam, the only proved oil fields in the country.

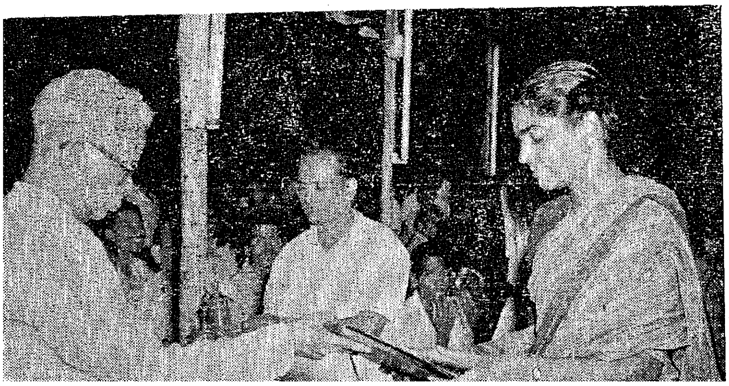
In 1961, the demand for petroleum products in India was about 8·5 m. tons. Of this requirement, about 6 m. tons was imported as crude to be processed in the three Coastal refineries and about 2·5 m. tons of prodncts were imported. The value of these imports was about Rs. 79 crores. By the end of the Third Plan, the oil products demand is expected to be around 17·18 m. tons.

Oil refineries in public sector

A protocol was signed in New Delhi, envisaging the expansion of the two State Oil Refineries in Barauni (Bihar) and in Koyali (Gujarat) which are being built with the assistance of the Soviet Union. The capacity of each will be increased from two to three million tons of oil per year.

The Burmah Oil Company, which is a partner of the Indian Government in Oil India Limited, has undertaken medium term borrowing programmes in London to enable Oil India Limited to fund the overdrafts, amounting to about £ 10 million, for financing the greater part of the starting cost of Oil India's 720-mile pipeline project in North East India.

Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister distributed prizes to Winners of the annual sports conducted by the Tamilnad N.G.G.O's Union on November 26, 1963



Over £ 12¾ million was spent in foreign exchange, mostly in starting towards the cost of constructing the line.

Oil prices

Since crude oil is a naturally occurring material, the cost of production per ton at the oil well is generally very low. However, Governments all over the world have imposed taxes on petroleum and petroleum products which in many instances is many times the cost of the oil itself. For example even though the cost of crude oil is about 4 pence per gallon at the production centre at Kuwait in Middle-East, the refined oil is sold at 49 pence per gallon in the U.K. which included an excise duty of 33 pence paid to the British Government.

In our country also Government have looked upon petroleum products as a source of income. The oil produced in Assam Oil fields are refined and sold at Rs. 385 per ton and this includes an amount of Rs. 227 per ton collected as duties, sales-tax etc., by the Central and State Governments. Thus, increased oil consumption in a country not only signifies growing prosperity but also results in increase of Governmental revenues. The oil prices are largely governed by Government policies.

The search for oil is carried on with hope in the face of disappointments. It is a challenge to our resourcefulness and skill. The Stakes are high but the reward where success is achieved, is far greater and outweighs all risks.

Refineries

Before 1953, India had only one oil refinery at Digbhoi having a capacity of not more than 4·5 lakh m. tons, the rest of the petroleum products requirements were met by imports. Today, there is a refining capacity of 8 m. tons. Burmah-Shell refinery 3·75 m. tons Esso Standard Refinery 2·5 m. tons, Caltex Refinery 1·2 m. tons, Digbhoi Refinery 0·45 m. tons and Numnati Refinery 0·75 m. tons. Another 2 m. tons capacity is current by being created at Barauni and is expected to be commissioned by the middle of 1964. Plans are also afoot to augment the refining capacity further by 7 m. tons by the end of Third Plan, through the expansion of the Numnati and Barauni refineries to 1·25 m. tons and 3 m. tons respectively and by setting up two more refineries, one at Koyali with a capacity of 3 m. tons and the other somewhere in South India with a capacity of 2·5 m. tons.

Oil exploration at some other places also has yielded results at one place—Sibsagar area, oil has been struck in two of the four wells drilled so far and at another, Cambay, a gas field has been established, oil has well been found at Kalol near the Ankaleshwar region.

A significant role has been played in this rapid development of our oil industry by both the private and public sectors at some places working jointly as in the Nahorkatiya and Moran, through Oil India Limited (a fifty-fifty partnership between the Union Government and the Burmah Oil Company and at others individually).

Oil and Natural Gas Commission

The Oil and Natural Gas Commission was formed in May 1956, and functioned as a Government Depot till 1959 when it was converted into a statutory organisation. In the interest of efficient and expeditious progress, the O.N.G.C. of which the Minister for Mines and Fuel is the Chairman, has its Headquarters in Dehra Dun. The Commissioner has three Directorates —Geology, Geophysics and Engineering.

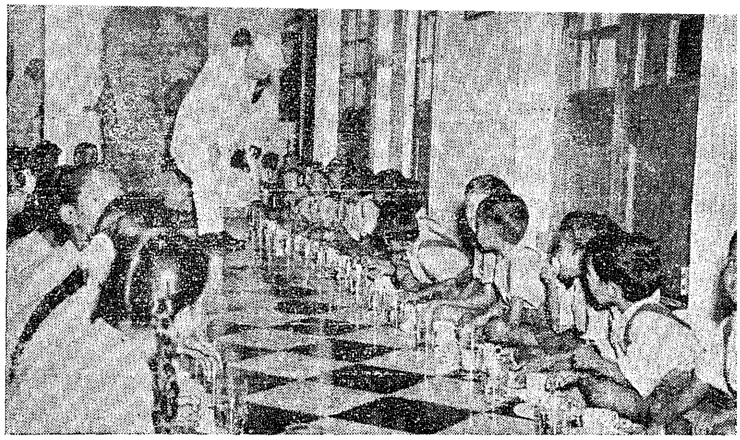
Geological and geophysical surveys are carried out by the O.N.G.C. in various parts of the country—Jammu-Kashmir, Punjab and U.P. foot hills and plains. Bihar, Assam, West Bengal, Gujerat, Sourashtra, Kutch, Rajasthan, Cauvery basin in Madras and Godavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh, Coastal regions of Kerala and Andaman Nicobar Islands.

Distribution

Distribution is that stage of the petroleum industry when refined products, have the refinery on their way to the customer. Inland distribution is a very big undertaking in this country. Nearly 7·1 million tons of petroleum products are now distributed annually. Up to 1954, the petroleum products obtainable from the only indigenous source Digbhoi Refinery were absorbed in Assam and part of North India. The rest of the country's requirements were imported and distributed by Burmah Shell, Stanvac, Caltex Indo-Burma Petroleum Company and Western India Oil Distributing Company.

Current by refineries in India have made the country self-sufficient in most petroleum products. The exceptions are kerosene and lubricants in particular which have to be imported to meet the growing demand. On the other hand, light distilled spirits is in excess demand and some 174, 166 tons were exported during the nine months ended December 1960.

The distribution net work consists of a number of large storage points called " Installation " situated at main ports. Installations receive supplies from refineries or direct imports from overseas, from the Installations, supplies move to the interior by rail



Governor Sri Bisnuram Medhi, gave a party to Children of the city orphanages at Raj Bhavan, Guindy, on November 15, 1963

to be stored at smaller storage points called Depots. These depots in turn feed surrounding areas.

Oil Imports

Since its inception in June 1959 to April 30, 1962, the Indian Oil Company has imported Rs. 3·3 crores worth of refined oil products from the Soviet Union amounting to 281,000 tons. 172,000 tons of kerosene, 92,800 tons of High Speed Diesel oil, 10,570 tons of furnace oil and 5,700 tons of these imports are being made in non-convertible Indian rupees only, thereby conserving valuable foreign exchange.

The I.O.C. exceeded its target of import of HSD oil from the Soviet Union in April 1962. It had up to end of April 1962 imported over 92,800 tons of the world's finest quality HDS oil from the U.S.S.R. in 25 shipments during the previous 19 months.

And an agreement with the U.S.S.R. to import 1·5 m. tons of petroleum products, the I.O.C. was able to secure them at prices 15 per cent lower than those charged by the Western monopolies.

The foreign oil companies in India hit back starting a rate war and refusal to process Soviet crude oil in their refineries. The Oil and Fuel Ministry had made it clear that it would market its commodity through its own sales network and establish a number of refineries in the public sector. It would beat the monopolies at their own game of competition. They had to reduce the prices of their petroleum products thrice between 1958 and 1960. The total reduction will amount to Rs. 29 crores a year. They agreed to refine Soviet crude oil imported by the Government they had also to forego certain concessions of duty protection, etc., which they had been enjoying for a decade, this meant a further saving in foreign exchange amounting to Rs. 50 crores a year.

CIVIC POLLS IN MADRAS STATE

Elections to the Madras Corporation Council and the Municipal Councils in the State are to be completed in three stages during February 1964.

Thirty-six municipalities in five districts—North Arcot, Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Madurai and Tirunelveli—will go to polls on February 5. Nominations for this group are received on January 2, 3 and 4. Scrutiny is on January 6 and the last date for withdrawal is January 9.

The remaining 28 municipalities comprised in the second group of seven districts—Chingleput, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli, Nilgiris, Ramanathapuram, Kanyakumari and Salem—will go to polls on February 17.

Nominations for this group are received on January 15, 16 and 17. Scrutiny is on January 18 and the last date for withdrawal is January 21.

The Corporation of Madras will go to polls on February 22. Nominations are received on January 22, 23 and 24. Scrutiny is on January 25 and the last date for withdrawal is January 28.

In all the places, counting of votes will take place on the day after the poll.

There are 21, 90,000 voters in the 64 municipalities in the State, according to the 1962 voters list. There are about 11 lakh voters in Madras Corporation.

The 64 Municipalities have 1,477 wards. The Madras Corporation has 100 divisions.

FIRST GROUP.

The 36 Municipalities comprised in the first group of districts numbering five, are as follows :—

North Arcot district.—(11 Municipalities) : Ambur, Arcot, Arkonam, Arni, Gudiyattam, Ranipet, Tirupattur, Tiruvannamalai, Vaniyambadi, Vellore and Walajapet.

Coimbatore district.—(eight) : Coimbatore, Dharapuram, Erode, Gobichettipalayam, Mettupalayam, Pollachi, Tiruppur and Udumalpet.

Thanjavur district.—(six) : Kumbakonam, Mannargudi, Mayuram, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur and Tiruvarur.

Madurai district.—(six) : Bodinaickanur, Dindigul, Madurai, Palni, Periakulam and Cumbum.

Tirunelveli district.—(five) : Melapalayam, Palayamcottai, Shencottah, Tirunelveli and Tuticorin.

SECOND GROUP.

Chingleput district.—(four) : Chingleput, Kanchipuram, Trivellore and Tiruvottiyur.

South Arcot district.—(four) : Chidambaram, Cuddalore, Tindivanam and Villupuram.

Salem district.—(two) : Rasipuram and Salem.

Tiruchirappalli district.—(four) : Karur, Pudukkottai, Srirangam and Tiruchirappalli.

Ramanathapuram district.—(eight) : Aruppukottai, Devakottai, Rajapalayam, Karaikudi, Ramanathapuram, Sivakasi, Srivilliputtur and Virudhunagar.

Kanyakumari district.—(four) : Colachel, Kuzhiturai, Nagercoil and Padmanabhapuram.

Nilgiris—(two) : Coonoor and Ootacamund.

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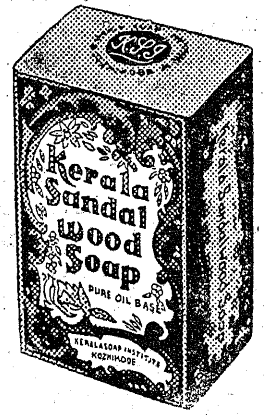

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